EAST BAY EXPRESS

MARCH 28-APRIL 3, 2012 SINCE 1978 EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM

SPECIAL
ISSUE
INSIDE

Taste

The definitive guide to East Bay dining and drinking.

California Institute of Integral Studies
www.ciis.edu

Radical Pasts, Radical Futures
A Conversation on Contemporary Social Movements

FRIDAY, MARCH 30 • 3:00PM–7:00PM

Moderated by **SASHA LILLEY**, host of KPFA's *Against the Grain*. World famous theorists, activists, and historians from many continents, struggles, and generations come together in an exciting conversation to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. Please join us for two afternoon sessions with our extraordinary guests.

Panelists include **SELMA JAMES, ANRAIYE, PETER LINEBAUGH, SCOTT CROW, GUSTAVO ESTEVA, GEORGE KATSIAFICAS,** and **RUTH REITAR**

FREE, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.
CIIS MAIN BUILDING • 1453 MISSION STREET • NAMASTE HALL • SAN FRANCISCO 94103
Contact aparadise@ciis.edu for more information

2011 Winner

PURRFECT AUTO SERVICE
1808 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley, CA 94702 (510) 527-1500

FUEL SAVER SPECIAL
$149.95 Plus tax, Most Cars
INCLUDES
• Signature Oil Change
• 3 Step Fuel Injection Cleaning
• New Fuel Filter
• New Air Filter
Present Coupon. Expires 4/30/12

MANAGER'S SPECIAL
$18.95 Includes tax, Most Cars
INCLUDES
• Xpress Oil & Filter Change
• Topping Off Brake Fluid, Transmission Fluid, Coolant, and Windshield Washer Fluid
• Free Safety Inspection, Brake Inspection & Tire Rotation
Present Coupon. Expires 4/30/12

FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT SERVICE
INCLUDES
Full Vehicle Inspection,
Code Retrieval
• Up to one hour FREE diagnosing.
• European Cars OK
Present Coupon. Expires 4/30/12

10% OFF LABOR ONLY ON THE FOLLOWING SERVICES
Transmission Repairs • Shocks & Struts • Belt & Hoses • Timing Belts
CV Boots • Axles • Starters • Alternators • Radiators • Clutch Repairs • Radiator Repairs

We accept extended warranty insurance work. Most cars. Additional parts & service extra. No hazardous waste fee. SUV's, trucks larger than 1/2 ton, and cars with odd plates are $5 more. Extra charge for platinum spark plugs.

CONTENTS

NEWS & OPINION

4 **Letters**
Seven Days Parker's tough stand.
Legalization Notes Richmond's dispensary renaissance.
9 **Eco Watch** Judge says state regulators broke the law.
11 **Full Disclosure** Can corporations be beneficial?
12 **News** Are stay-away orders illegal?

ARTS & CULTURE

13 **Culture Spy** Moshe Kasher
14 **Event & Attraction Listings** *Wheelchair Racing Championship at 5th Avenue and Embarcadero.*
17 **Museum & Gallery Listings** *Sweeping of Giants at Old Crow Tattoo & Gallery.*
19 **Theater & Dance Listings**
19 **Theater** *Red* at Berkeley Rep.
20 **Lectures & Literary Listings** Carolina De Robertis at A Great Good Place for Books.

FOOD & DRINK

22 **Dining Review** B-Side BBQ
23 **What the Fork** J.J. Ahrams and The Grilled Cheese Guy.
24 **Restaurants & Cafes**
26 **Last Call** Fireside chat.
27 **Food & Wine Listings**

MOVIES

28 **Movie Reviews** *The Hunger Games.*
28 **Movie Listings**
30 **One-Night Stands**

MUSIC

31 **Sam Duparat** At The Jazzschool.
32 **Nick Zammuto** At the Palace of Fine Arts.
34 **CD Reviews** Conduits, La Sera, and Esperanza Spalding.
34 **Local Licks** Mark Abel, Howell Devine, Bang Data, and Bayonics.
36 **Concert & Club Listings**
42 **DJ & Dance Listings**
43 **Aquarium Age**
45 **Savage Love**

On the Cover *Aaron Lander of Marin Sun Farms. Photograph by Stephen Loewinsohn*

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Editorial
Co-Editors Robert Gammon, Kathleen Richards
Music Editor/Staff Writer Rachel Swan
Staff Writer/Web Editor Ellen Cushing
Arts Editor/Page Designer Anna Saltenish
Calendar Editor Claire Harwood
Chow Editor W.R. Butler
Editorial Interns Holly McDede, John C. Osborn
Contributors Claudia Angus, Alastair Bland, Derwin BennCoonam, Monte Chang, David Downs, Chris DuPlay, Robert Fena, John Gabanff, Andrew Gilbert, Lee Kildehrand, Jesse Hirsch, Kitty Kleiman, Oliver Kaufmann, Stephen Loewinsohn, Alvaro Potters, Aaron Rufus, Jason Victor Serinus, Steven Tavares, Jeen Tepperman, Luke Tsai, Kelly Vance, Ali Winston

Art & Production
Production Manager Christine Wong
Art Director Brian Kelly
Graphic Designer Elaine Shaw

Circulation
Circulation Manager Jack Murphy
Couriers Bruce Abbott, Trevor Ferrell, Gary Jay, Thomas Kennedy, Cantre Quetiret, Jr., Dante Zarld

Business
Publisher Jody Colley
Operations and Events Manager Maria Cohen-Rosenthal
Systems Managers James Aneneo
President Jay Youngdahl

Advertising
Sales & Marketing Director Terry Furry
Sales Manager Tia Magnuson
Senior Account Executive Marie Ortega
Account Executives Sam Batty, Ben Gomberg, Kevon Kavoosi, Kespe Kontis, Dave Mitchell, Lyhn Nguyen
Account Manager Justin Harris

The Express is the local alternative to mainstream media. We seek to promote truth, expose wrongdoing, and give voice to the voiceless. We are dedicated to local arts and culture. We aim for the highest standards in our journalism and business practices. As an independent local business, we want to help improve the East Bay economy and environment. The *Express* provides a diverse work atmosphere where employees are respected and developed.

620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607
Office 510-879-3700 **Fax** 510-879-3794
National advertising 888-2-RUXTON **Fax** 800-238-4806

Sustainable Business Alliance
a a n
oakland grown independent & Locally Owned

The *Express* is free of charge, one copy per reader. To purchase subscriptions or to order a back issue for $4, call 510-879-3700. Anyone found to be stealing the paper will be prosecuted. The *Express* is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation. It is published Wednesdays by East Bay Publishing LLC, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607. The entire contents are ©2012, East Bay Publishing LLC. All rights reserved.

oakland indieawards

nominate and celebrate oakland's
LOCALLY-OWNED, INDEPENDENT
BUSINESSES & ARTISTS

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES

vote online by APRIL 14th

OAKLAND INDIE AWARDS.COM

join us on
MAY 31ST
6:30 - 10:30 pm
KAISER CENTER
$10 tickets

co-hosted by…
EAST BAY EXPRESS
One PacificCoast Foundation

PARTY!

celebrate the power of small things to create revolutionary changes in our economy and environment

ENJOY OAKLAND'S OWN UNIQUE FOOD and DRINK SHOP at the PEOPLE'S BAZAAR

Nominate

local businesses & artists for an award by April 14th

Nominees must be either An independent for-profit business based in Oakland; Or An artist who lives or has a studio in Oakland.

oakland soul represents the soul the essence and the style of Oakland, this business or artist embraces diversity & creativity, has confidence in their individuality, helps their brothers & sisters, and has no pretensions.

ripple effect supports other local businesses and artists by "shopping local" for their supplies and services, creating an economic ripple effect as money circulates within the community.

innovative newbie has opened in the last three years and excites and inspires you because of a creative new idea perspective, or solution they are sharing with the world

greenie is our environmental hero, Immersed In sustainable practices, such as creating or selling new items from used materials, using energy efficient appliances, composting, reducing usage of toxic products or reducing waste

socially-responsible rockstar incorporates positive social change into their mission, operations, or measures of success. They use creative approaches to address community, economic, and environmental issues. They give back to the community through their products, services, operations and employee practices.

pillar is an Oakland business or artist that has been around forever, persevering through the good and the bad, mentoring newbies, preserving our city's history; the artist everyone loves, or the classic spot "you have to go to" when visitors come to town

6th Annual

NEWS & OPINION

LETTERS

It's Bigger Than Just the Bay

Overall a good article on a troubling problem that has increased in the last few years. I would point out that there are a couple of items in the article that are incorrect.

Living on an anchored-out boat in the bay is not illegal in and of itself. There are places in the bay where it is illegal to anchor and at the places where it is legal, there is almost always a time limit — usually 72 hours. Someone who is not dumping overboard, who moved his boat within the anchoring time limit, and who kept their registration updated could legally live on a boat in the bay outside of a marina. There is no requirement for live-aboards to register with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). Marinas receive a permit from the BCDC and in that permit there is usually a limit on the number of live-aboards the marina can legally have. The BCDC has a great deal of power over what happens in the bay, sometimes for better and sometimes for worse. It did not always have control over boating activities in the bay, but redefined boats as "bay fill" a number of years ago so it could exercise control over them. It's a stretch of the definition if you ask me, but well played to get what it wanted.

I don't know of anyone who refers to these people as "off anchor" — it's "anchor out," "on the hook," or just "anchored." If you are off-anchor your boat is loose and drifting somewhere.

Getting rid of boats is a costly process for many reasons, but in the end a fiberglass or wood hull has no value and must be cut up and shipped to a landfill — sometimes to a special landfill for toxic waste if the hull is soaked in oil or fuel. This and the storage cost are the driving factors. I would be highly skeptical of anyone who says they can do it cheaply. There have been a number of entrepreneurs over the decades offering their services to harbor masters to dispose of boats cheaply. What usually happens is the person either sells the boat for little money and thus sends it into the same cycle of abandonment, or they strip it of all identifying numbers and leave it tied to something for someone else to dispose of, much like the guy in the pickup truck who offers to get rid of that old couch for you and it ends up on the side of the road somewhere for someone else to pay to take it to the landfill.

The article doesn't mention it, but Richardson Bay off Sausalito has had a long-term anchor-out problem for decades now. I think, the townspeople and the boat owners have reached a sort of détente over the issue. I believe this is mostly driven by the cost of removing the boats and little has changed there in a long time. Once an anchor-out community forms, it can be difficult to break up.

In the end, it all comes down to money. It takes thousands of dollars to dispose of a boat, and the governmental units that might have jurisdiction over the waterway in question do not have the money to spare. So no one wants to take responsibility and everyone keeps saying it is someone else's problem.

The answer, I think, is a state fund to dispose of abandoned boats. Then, just like having a car towed, someone just has to call a company and have them send over a tow boat. That company goes through all the legal processes of making sure the boat is abandoned and then disposes of it in a landfill. The boats should not be resold only to enter the revolving door of cheap boats until abandoned again. Take them out of the picture completely.

Marion Hanson, Alameda

Time for a Bigger Boat Tax?

As a once-avid bay sailor and religious reader of *Latitude 38*, I've been well aware of the derelict boat problem in the bay for years. Clipper Cove on the east side of Treasure Island used to have a really bad problem with these boats, but a new harbor-master a few years ago took the initiative and got rid of them. Not only do derelict boats cause pollution from oil and leaking diesel fuel, they are also a hazard to navigation. And, of course, dumping urine or excrement into the bay is illegal because of the pollution it causes.

Your article on the problem missed an important point. A boat sitting in the water must be maintained or it will eventually sink. The bilge must be pumped, the bottom must be cleaned, and the boat must be hauled out of the water and the bottom painted occasionally. Derelict boats receive none of this maintenance, whether totally abandoned or with a homeless person living aboard.

Bud Brown had the right idea. Get rid of derelict boats and charge the owners whatever it costs to do so. Sailboats are toys unless one lives aboard, and those who buy them need to take responsibility. This stuff needs to be cleaned up, but the public should not pay for it.

Perhaps we need a tax on sailboats to create a fund to pay for this cleanup, or a deposit paid by boat owners to ensure that the rest of us are not stuck with the cleanup if they abandon their boats.

Jeff Hoffman, Oakland

The Power of Trust

Livestreaming is a tool and many things can be done with it. Some of the more professional streamers have chosen to conduct themselves as journalists. These streamers do not allow their choices to be controlled by the people whose actions they are streaming. These streamers whose work is of professional journalistic quality may use the words "transparent," "truthful" or the newly coined "Stardust Blue."

Spencer Mills (@Oakfosho), Pirate, Lenox, TimPool (@TimCast) and some others conduct themselves as professional journalists. This means they will show the most interesting or appropriate thing happening in front of the camera. A journalist does make choices. However, most journalists will film a crime taking place in front of their camera. Tim Pool was filming when people ran up in front of his camera and let air out of the police car tires. Tim did not chase them down to film them — they chose to do this in front of his camera. It was their choice to be on camera.

There is no reason that any journalist should be complicit in anyone's crime or wrongdoing — whether the wrongdoing is a protester throwing a bottle or a police officer beating a protester. A journalist is there to journal, to record what is happening.

Yes, a journalist makes choices. A livestreamer makes many editorial choices on the fly. The best livestreamers seek out the most important things to show, according to their educated, experienced judgment. There are reasons the best livestreamers have worldwide followings.

Trust is a big word. We trust news reporters if we feel they are telling the truth. Those livestreamers dedicated to truth have earned the trust of people worldwide.

Sue Basko, Hollywood

Heroes

Oakfosho, Pirate, and the rest of the livestreamers are heroes in my book. I watch them as often as possible so that I can see what's actually happening, as opposed to what the (almost always absent) mainstream media tells us happened via the wholesale reprinting of OPD or City of Oakland press releases. While I've seen some questionable protester behavior — mostly in the form of ill-advised inflammatory language — the livestreamers have documented an Augean stable's worth of outrageous and illegal police activity that otherwise would have been swept under the carpet.

For better or worse, there can no longer be an expectation of privacy at a mass protest, and it's important to note that the police also have a full array of camera equipment at their disposal — and are not shy about using it. Ultimately, protesters must ask themselves who they trust more to present a full and comprehensive view of their actions: sympathetic and transparent livestreamers, or police determined to crack down on dissent to the full extent of the law and beyond?

John Seal, Oakland

Slow News Week?

I don't see anything wrong in this arrangement. The two appear to be paying a fair rent under circumstances, no law broken. Let them live in peace.

Tony Santos, former mayor of San Leandro

A Perverse World

I think this a great example of local journalism presenting a local issue that has

ATTENTION FILMMAKERS

PUT YOUR SKILLS TO THE TEST FOR OUR 24HOUR EARTH DAY CHALLENGE

3-5 MINUTE FILM
TO BE CREATED
BETWEEN
9:00 AM
SAT. APRIL 21
THROUGH
9:00 AM
SUN. APRIL 22

REGISTER BY
APRIL 18
20 TEAM LIMIT
$500
CASH PRIZE!

TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM, EMAIL
[illegible]

[illegible] BE JUDGED
[illegible] PANEL

24 HOUR DIGITAL FILM FESTIVAL

EAST BAY EXPRESS

actual cafe
OAKLAND

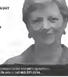
OAKLAND UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

TRUMER PILS

ANNAPURNA
Since 1969
"Best Smoke Shop"
Reduce Your Carbon Footprint...
BEST
Vaporizer Selection
annapurnalive.com
2416 TELEGRAPH AVE. BERKELEY

Mac Menders
Fast • Friendly • Professional
Available 24 Hours
The East Bay's best Mac support for when things go slightly or horribly awry. PC's welcome too!
Chris Barylick
ChrisBarylick@gmail.com
202.341.9236
Apple Certified

California Institute of Integral Studies
You are invited to join the faculty, staff, and students of CIIS at our
Program Information Sessions
These sessions take place at CIIS Main Building | 1453 Mission St. | San Francisco
Explore the programs CIIS has to offer. Faculty will offer insight into the programs' mission and purpose, and cover relevant topics in their fields. Questions about admissions, curriculum, placement, financial aid, and scholarships will also be addressed.



SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Monday, April 2
6:30PM room 550

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY—PSYD
Thursday, April 5
6:00PM Fox Plaza Lounge

For more information, including transportation and parking options, visit our website at www.ciis.edu or call 415.575.6154.

beyond impact and that would otherwise be invisible to the public. It is a perverse world where music cops are shaking down mere venues for local musicians in the name of protecting artistic property rights. Does The Beatles' estate really need a nickel every time some street musician plays "Hey Jude"? Is this the way our society should support the music "industry"? Thanks to the *Express* for covering stories like these.

Gen Fujioka, Berkeley

Responsibility vs. Revenue

There are conflict mineral provisions in the Dodd-Frank Act designed to prevent payments to warlords in the Democratic Republic of Congo where minerals for cell phones are mined. But no protections for the Chinese workers. Some folks would say that it is the responsibility of the Chinese government to protect their workers. What do you say to those who think that "maximizing profit" is the only job of a corporate CEO?

Lisa Lindsley, Washington DC

Hungry — and Fast

I was informed that Le Cheval was back in its old restaurant by a co-worker at around 1:00 on Tuesday afternoon and by 1:45, I was eating my favorite dish, the Claypot.

Jeremy Kuhn, Oakland

In Defense of Dan Richards

You state that Dan Richards is the most "tone-deaf" public official in California. How wrong you are. That title goes to Governor Jerry Brown hands down!

Dan Richards did nothing illegal, nothing immoral, nothing unethical, nothing wrong. He didn't even get the hunt for free, he got it at a discounted price, which is available to the general public. Saying that Dan Richards must follow California hunting laws in another state is like saying a chief of police in California must obey California speed limits no matter where he goes. California laws end at California borders, or is that too difficult of a concept for you? Oregon has no sales tax, so when you go to Oregon and go to a store to purchase something, tell them you are from California and that you want to pay the California sales tax on your purchase.

I do not understand how you liberals even think! On one hand, you exclaim that Californians voted to not allow mountain lion hunting, as if California voters are absolutely correct. But have those same California voters vote that marriage is to be between one man and one woman, and you guys say that California voters don't count. You cannot have it both ways!

Mike McKinzie, Garden Grove, California

The Plastic Problem

Plastics are a petroleum product. We have many brilliant scientists in this area. Maybe they could make two problems into one solution by reverse-engineering plastic waste into fuel. It's probably not easy, but such an accomplishment would deserve Nobel Prizes in physics *and* peace.

Ruth Bird, Berkeley

Syntax, Sigh

Unless Beth Terry is a zombie or a vampire (a fact not mentioned in Nate Seltenrich's article) shouldn't your headline be "Beth Terry is living almost plastic free" [rather than "... almost living plastic-free"]?

Joanna Graham, Berkeley

Plastic-Free in the Kitchen

Beth's blog was what convinced me to go plastic-free. I even started my own blog about it: ThePlasticFreeChef.com. I found that eliminating plastic waste from the kitchen was the most difficult part. I had to give up a lot of foods and modify my favorite recipes to be plastic-free. If you want to give up plastic but are worried that you won't be able to eat anything, check out my blog for some good ideas. And even if you don't give up all plastic, you're still making a difference.

Mary Katherine Glen, Mountain View

Insensitive and Inappropriate

Kelly Vance's flippancy in labeling *In Darkness* an "umpteenth Holocaust film" is both insensitive and inappropriate. While it's understandable that folks get frustrated by the number of such movies and I respect a critic's right to be bored with them, I wonder whether other groups' historic tragedies would be handled so sarcastically. I am no "diehard Holocaust fan," as the reviewer so crassly phrases it, but I do expect a minimum level of care and cultural competence. While many may be tired of the Holocaust as an artistic topic, it's become equally trite to bash a film in this way. I do agree with Vance's conclusion that "enough is too much," but frankly, not around critic fatigue over a well-worn movie plot — more so a disturbing trend to treat such a heavy issue in such a lighthearted and offensive manner.

Jon Gilgoff, Oakland

Awards

Express staffer Ellen Cushing was nominated for a prestigious James Beard Foundation award for journalism excellence in covering wine, spirits, and other beverages for her cover story "How Peet's Starbucked Itself" (9/21/2011).

And staffer Nate Seltenrich won a second-place award for excellence in feature writing from the North American Agricultural Journalists association for his cover story "How Safe Is Your Soil?" (8/3/2011).

Both awards were from national contests. Cushing and Seltenrich competed against journalists from newspapers and magazines of all sizes throughout the country. ●

Letters Policy

Please provide your full name, address, and phone number, although we will only print your name, city, and affiliation. Send submissions to Letters@EastBayExpress.com or Letters, *East Bay Express*, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

PARKER'S TOUGH STAND

Oakland's city attorney warns against illegal interference by councilmembers. Plus: March Madness: The Public Officials Behaving Badly Edition.

By Robert Gammon

Barbara **Parker** is proving to be a no-nonsense city attorney. Last week, she issued a tough new memo to city employees, reminding them that Oakland's City Councilmembers have no legal right to interfere with their work. The memo comes on the heels of a probe by City Administrator **Deanna Santana** that uncovered evidence of Councilwoman **Desley Brooks** interfering with city employees when she engineered a no-bid contract to build a swanky new teen center in her district.

Parker's memo, like Santana's investigation, is particularly noteworthy because top Oakland city officials have been reluctant over the years to rein in the actions of councilmembers who have a history of violating the city's separation-of-powers law, fearing that councilmembers would retaliate. Parker's actions also display refreshing independence because it was the council who appointed her to be city attorney after her predecessor, John Russo, left to become Alameda's city manager.

Parker's memo also follows the recent rebuke that her deputy, **Doryanna Moreno**, delivered to Brooks. At a council meeting earlier this month, Moreno repeatedly told Brooks that she should recuse herself from a vote on whether Santana should continue the investigation of her. Moreno noted that Brooks had a conflict of interest, and Santana's probe had uncovered evidence that Brooks may have violated the city's separation-of-powers law.

Moreno's actions and Parker's memo also strike a stark contrast between Parker and Councilwoman **Jane Brunner**, who plans to run against Parker in the November city attorney race. Brunner, along with Councilman **Ignacio De La Fuente** (who plans to run for mayor if there's a recall election), rushed to Brooks' defense and voted against a proposal earlier this month to appoint an independent investigator to further probe her conduct with the teen center. At the council meeting in which Moreno took on Brooks, Brunner stated that she couldn't "understand" why Brooks would have a conflict of interest if Brooks voted on a proposal to have Santana further investigate her. Brunner and De La Fuente appeared to be pandering to Brooks and her supporters as they prepare to run for city attorney and mayor, respectively.

In her memo to city employees, Parker pointed out that interference by councilmembers with city employees' work constitutes a criminal misdemeanor that would force the councilmember to be removed from office. Parker listed the following prohibitions for councilmembers:

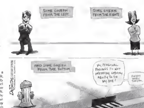
"A City Councilmember may only contact City administrative staff only to make inquiries. All other communications about the administration of the City must only be through the City Administrator or Mayor.

A City Councilmember shall not give orders to any administrative employee, either publicly or privately. A City administrative staff person shall not carry out the orders of a City Councilmember. Instead the staff person should consult and follow the direction of the City Administrator or department head.

A City Councilmember shall not attempt to coerce or influence the City Administrator or any administrative employee in respect to any contract, purchase of supplies or any other administrative action. A City staff person should not be influenced in respect to any contract, purchase of supplies or any other administrative action by a Councilmember.

A City Councilmember may not in any manner direct or request the appointment to or removal from office of any person by the City Administrator, City Administrator's subordinates or any other such officers.

A City Councilmember may not in any manner take part in the appointment or removal of any administrative employee."


SOME GOVERN FROM THE LEFT
SOME GOVERN FROM THE RIGHT
AND SOME GOVERN FROM THE BOTTOM
MY PERSONAL FEELINGS DO NOT INTERFERE WITH MY ABILITY TO DO MY JOB!
EXCEPT WHEN THEY DO.
DeFazio

March Madness

It's hard to remember a time when so many public officials in the Bay Area were caught in embarrassing situations or accused of misdeeds at the same time. Indeed, demands for resignations, whether coming from the press or the public, seem to have reached an unprecedented level.

But not every transgression is equal, of course. So in an effort to sort out which public official has behaved the worst, the *Express* decided it was time to do some head-to-head comparisons. In the style of March Madness, here are our Elite Eight matchups:

Nadia Lockyer vs. **Michael Meehan**. The Alameda County supervisor versus Berkeley's police chief. Lockyer reportedly missed nearly half of her board of supervisors meetings while having time to visit her meth-head ex-boyfriend in jail and make a sex video for him. She then reportedly took her eight-year-old son on a late-night rendezvous with said ex, and ended up in drug rehab. Meehan screwed up by sending a police spokeswoman to a reporter's home late at night to ask for a correction to an erroneous story. Winner: Lockyer in a walk.

Mary Hayashi vs. **Chris Magnus**. The East Bay Assemblywoman versus Richmond's police chief. Hayashi pled guilty to shoplifting about $2,500 worth of clothing from Neiman Marcus in San Francisco. Magnus is accused of making racist remarks and discriminating against black cops. Winner: Hayashi is an easy pick. The allegations against Magnus look pretty weak.

David Muhammad vs. **Desley Brooks**. Alameda County's probation chief versus the Oakland city councilwoman. Muhammad is accused of sexually assaulting one of his female deputies. For Brooks, see above. It also should be noted that both maintain their innocence, and neither has been charged with a crime. Winner: Muhammad. The allegations against him are very serious.

Ross Mirkarimi vs. **Jean Quan**. San Francisco's sheriff versus Oakland's mayor. Mirkarimi was charged with spousal abuse and pleaded guilty to misdemeanor false imprisonment. A video, however, clearly shows a nasty bruise on his wife's arm that he inflicted on her on New Year's Eve. Quan made serious mistakes with Occupy Oakland and faces a possible recall from office. Winner: Mirkarimi, hands down.

Final Four: Hayashi vs. Lockyer. This was a close call, but Hayashi gets the nod because of her criminal conviction. Mirkarimi vs. Muhammad. Although what Muhammad allegedly did was worse, Mirkarimi is the choice: he admitted guilt.

Finals: Hayashi vs. Mirkarimi. These two make the finals because there's no doubt they both broke the law. But Mirkarimi gets our March 2012 Public Official Behaving Badly award, because, from our perspective, domestic abuse outweighs shoplifting on the scales of justice — and ethics. ●

Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 82510.

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

E
iWEAR
WELL-CRAFTED
UNIQUE EYEWEAR
1829 4th St.
Berkeley
CA 94710
510.984.2880
Open 7 Days
11AM-6PM Monday-Saturday
12PM-6PM Sunday

A DiVA'S CLOSeT
Clothing • Shoes • Accessories • Plus Sizes
20% off
any single item
restrictions apply w/ad
Tues - Sat 11 - 7
383 17th St · Oakland · 625 8085

Our MCU ATF has
the highest levels of CBD
ever recorded by SC Labs.

Now *that's* good medicine.

only available by delivery from

HILLS
FARMACY

(510) 292 8717
hillsfarmacy.com

Oakland
420 Evaluations

Second Location
OPEN IN SAN JOSE
www.SJ420.com

San Jose Location at:
115 N 4th Street Suite 106
(Between St. John & St. James)
San Jose | 408 998.0980 | www.SJ420.com
Monday - Saturday 11am-7pm - Sunday 12-5
We Will Match ANY Local Competitors Price
OaklandMarijuanaCenter.com
Please visit our website to book your appointment today!

$39
Expires 4/3/12
Must Bring Ad • 1 per Patient

LEGALIZATION NATION

RICHMOND'S DISPENSARY RENAISSANCE

Green Remedy Collective reopens near Hilltop Mall. Plus, a reefer-madness bill would ensnare innocent drivers.

By David Downs

Richmond used to be a hub for some of the world's finest wine — until Prohibition killed it off. Nearly a century later, the city's thriving medical cannabis industry seemed as if it would be next to succumb.

Dispensaries like Seven Stars Holistic Healing Center and Ken Estes' GDP Collective won serious awards, only to be shut down or chased out of town. But that's all water under the bridge now, city leaders say.

In December, Richmond approved business permits for three dispensaries: Compassionate Care Collective (doing business as Greenheart), Green Remedy Collective, and Greenleaf Natural Wellness. Last week, the Richmond City Council voted 4-1 to approve three more, bringing the total to six.

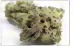
With a population of 103,701, Richmond will have one dispensary per 17,284 people, meaning the city's residents, per capita, will have some of the best access this state can offer to some of the best medical cannabis in the world, a life-saver of a drug for those with cancer, AIDS, glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, chronic pain, and other serious problems.

By contrast, Berkeley has just two open dispensaries for 112,580 residents. Oakland has fully approved five for 390,724 residents. Per capita, Richmond even beats out San Francisco and its twenty dispensaries.

That means Ken Estes' award-winning GDP and Seven Stars' Pure Kush will likely be coming back to Richmond. But it was Green Remedy Collective that reopened first at 2928 Hilltop Mall Road, Unit C, giving locals a solid alternative to schlepping down Interstate 80 to Berkeley and beyond.

Green Remedy originally opened in 2009 and closed in 2010 amid a broad shutdown of Richmond's dispensaries. Now permitted, the club reopened in late January just off the I-80 exit for Hilltop Mall. Green Remedy is not actually in the mall, but rather across the street from JC Penney, in a half-vacant but well-kept single-story commercial office. Look for the white Green Remedy sign in the grass near the road.

Ample parking differentiates Green Remedy from the bustling, bigger clubs down I-80. The security guard out front checking state identification and doctor's recommendations seemed delighted to have company. Joining the collective was a breeze. New carpets, plush leather seats, and furniture made it seem like a brand-new dispensary. Montell Jordan's "This Is How We Do It" played on the radio, and the air was spiked with the smell of OG Kush and Sour Diesel. Past the reception desk, Green Remedy has just one sales station in the main room, but the cannabis selection was fully stocked.


Blackberry Kush

The dispensary has yet to post a menu on its website or on one of the major aggregators such as StickyGuide or WeedMaps. The club's Richmond business permit may preclude online menus, the saleswoman said. That would be a bummer. Online menus are a great way to let your fingers do the shopping.

Green Remedy's inventory is like the dispensary and Richmond itself: solidly middle class. The club has almost two dozen strains, plus nearly a dozen concentrates and several dozen types of edibles. There also are ointments for those who don't smoke. Prices are competitive.

Strain selection is conservative, leaning toward variations of the blockbusters of the day. That means copious OG Kushes and Grand Daddy Purples, plus Platinum Sour Diesel and Girl Scout Cookies. Custom strains favor indicas like The Crypt — which combines indica Grand Daddy Purple with heavy indica Afghani. Patients can smell each strain in little eighth jars, which is less helpful than smelling cuts from big jars. But the pre-packaged grams, half-eighths, and eighths make the line move quicker. Our quest for something exotic led us to Blackberry Kush, a top-shelf union of DJ Short's Blueberry and Afghani. It isn't as aromatic as the free gram of Sour Diesel we got for joining the collective, but Blackberry Kush has supernaturally dark purple with elegant long trichomes. It's also a munchies-inducing indica roundhouse — ideal for anxiety-prone insomniacs.

Of course, dispensaries remain under siege throughout the state, with federal officials threatening to jail local public officials who regulate safe access to cannabis. Those threats have made moral cowards of many in California, but not in Richmond apparently. Not anymore. And hopefully not ever again.

Seeds & Stems

According to the California vehicle code, it's already a crime to drive stoned, yet Chino Assemblywoman Norma Torres has introduced Assembly Bill 2552, which would make it a crime to drive sober. How?

Because she wants to make it "unlawful for any person who has any level of cannabinoids or synthetic cannabinoid compound in his or her blood or urine to drive a vehicle."

Cannabinoids — the active ingredient in cannabis — can stay in the body for up to sixty days. But the effects of pot wear off in ninety minutes to three hours. Ergo, someone who's had a joint thirty days prior to any collision can be jailed for DUI under Torres' ignorant bill. AB 2552 creates more costs to the state, criminalizes innocent people, and does not make the roads any bit safer. ■

David.Downs@gmail.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

ECO WATCH

JUDGE SAYS STATE REGULATORS BROKE THE LAW

It appears to have been a factor in why the maker of methyl iodide, a toxic pesticide used on strawberries, pulled it from the market.

By Amy Standen

Wikimedia Commons

When Arysta LifeScience abruptly pulled methyl iodide off the market last week, it cited the "economic viability" of the controversial fumigant, which is used to sterilize soil before crops are planted. But at a hearing in an Oakland courtroom last Wednesday, another factor emerged: Arysta was on the verge of losing a major lawsuit.

California regulators approved methyl iodide in December 2010, in the final days of the Schwarzenegger administration. They did so over the objections of state scientists, who said trace amounts of the chemical would put farm workers and agricultural communities at risk of cancer, miscarriage, or birth defects.

Farmers rely on fumigants to support the state's $2.3 billion strawberry industry but have struggled to find environmentally safe products.

Immediately after California approved methyl iodide, environmental and farmworker groups sued the state, arguing that regulators broke the law in approving the chemical. The opening hearing took place last month. But before the court could issue its opinion, attorneys for Arysta requested another hearing, to take place last Wednesday. New details had emerged, they said, that would affect the case.

The request "piqued my curiosity," said Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch, according to a transcript of the hearing. But first, he had an announcement to make. "I have made a decision in the case, and I'm in the process of writing it up," he said. Then, to the surprise of many in the courtroom, Roesch offered a candid explanation of his yet-to-be-released opinion.

The case was not looking good for Arysta or for the state. California regulators broke state law in approving methyl iodide, Roesch said, by failing to take a close enough look at alternatives to the chemical or at the ramifications of not approving methyl iodide for use in California at all.

Furthermore, Roesch said, the approval by the Department of Pesticide Regulation was not based on sound science. State regulators "cobbled together" different methodologies in order to approve methyl iodide, Roesch said. There was "no evidence" to justify that process, he added.

Roesch also appeared to agree with plaintiffs that the state hadn't adequately studied whether methyl iodide could harm developing fetuses in pregnant farmworkers or in women who live near strawberry fields. "I think the [California] Birth Defect Prevention Act was also violated," said the judge, who added that his decision probably wouldn't address that particular issue because the other grounds were sufficient.

Then Roesch turned to Arysta's attorneys. "Now that you are aware of what the court is going to decide when I get around to finishing writing it up, tell me what you think I should consider?"

Stanley Landfair, an attorney for Arysta LifeScience, explained to the judge that the company had recently removed methyl iodide from the market nationally and revoked its request for registration in California. "Arysta, even if it wanted to, could not sell this product in the state of California any longer," Landfair said.

"We believe that renders the case moot," he said.

Roesch will issue his opinion on whether or he will dismiss the case May 1.

Pesticide activists say the timing of Arysta's announcement is no coincidence.

"If the judge dismisses the case," said Paul Towers of Pesticide Action Network North America, one of seventeen plaintiffs in the case, "California will have let a pesticide corporation off the hook and failed to fix our broken regulatory system."

In a statement, Arysta reiterated that the decision to withdraw methyl iodide was a financial one and declined to comment on the court case.

Despite methyl iodide's approval in California, only a handful of farmers actually have used the fumigant. Some local agricultural authorities have declined to issue permits for the chemical, and farmers have complained it's too costly to comply with safety precautions required by the state.

In its statement, Arysta said pulling methyl iodide off US shelves would allow the company to focus on other markets, including Mexico, which is second after California in supplying strawberries to the US. Methyl iodide is legal in seven other countries, but used in just one of them: Japan.

Meanwhile, while methyl iodide is off the table in California, Arysta has not ruled out bringing it back elsewhere in the country. While it is "suspending its support" of methyl iodide nationwide, Arysta will continue to maintain its 2007 US Environmental Protection Agency registration, which keeps the door open for future sales. ●

California Watch is a project of the nonprofit Center for Investigative Reporting in Berkeley. Contact the author at AStanden@CaliforniaWatch.org. For more, visit CaliforniaWatch.org.

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

HMR HUNGRY MIND RECORDINGS

Got Video?

Capture Your Passion in Action — Utilize the Power of Online Video!

Let us create magic to maximize your message

Sprout new clients with this Spring Special and get 20% off!

- No preparation necessary
- Quick, easy interview format
- High-def shoot, at your location

Call (510) 338-0950
hungrymindrecordings.com

TEA HOUSE
SUN GROWN MEDICINE
Naturally!
Delivering Humboldt to the Bay
www.teahousecollective.org

Site for Sore Eyes

Fabulous Looks. Beautiful Deals.

$100 OFF A Complete Pair of Eyeglasses PLUS FREE 2nd PAIR!

$99 Progressive No-Line Multifocals Or $100 OFF

1 Year Supply SAVE $100

Now Accepting Vision Insurance Plans!

2174 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley • (510) 841-6963 • SiteForSoreEyes.com

Comprehensive Eye Exam Only $59 - Book An Appointment Online Today.

THink indie}

SPENDING LOCALLY ENSURES THAT YOUR SALES TAXES ARE REINVESTED WHERE THEY BELONG: RIGHT HERE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

SAL BEDNARZ, OWNER

Actual Café
6334 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland
510-653-8386 actualcafe.com

JOHN AND [illegible], OWNERS
EMMA AND [illegible], DREAMERS

Oakland Floats – Flotation Tank Center
344 40th Street, Oakland
510-423-8772 OaklandFloats.com

THADDEUS BARSOTTI, FARMER AND CO-OWNER

Farm Fresh To You
1-800-796-6009 farmfreshtoyou.com

GARY SNOWS, CLAUDIA ERNE,
AND ANDREW ALLEN, OWNERS

ALKO Office Supply
2225 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley
510-848-3366 alkos.com

PETER WONG, TEFF [illegible]

Brundo Culinary Studio
@ American Steel 1960 Mandela Parkway, Oakland
510-601-7933 Brundo.com

MR. SNOOK, [illegible]
[illegible]

NIMBY
8410 Amelia Street, Oakland
510-633-0566 nimbyspace.org

LOREN PURCELL
AND JOHN REAM, OWNERS

Team Print Shop
www.teamprintshop.com

[illegible]

Steep Hill Lab
473 Roland Way, Suite A, Oakland
510-562-7400 steephilllab.com

FRED BASSETT, FOUNDER & CEO

MinuteMan Press
1101 Fifth Street, Berkeley
510-540-7113 e-minutemanpress.com

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
EAST BAY EXPRESS
oakland grown
Sustainable Business Alliance

If you are an independent business and want to be featured on this page, call the East Bay Express at 510-879-3702 or email Indie@EastBayExpress.com.

FULL DISCLOSURE

CAN CORPORATIONS BE BENEFICIAL?

Proponents of a new kind of business hope to change how capitalism works.

By Darwin BondGraham

Oakland is no stranger to the harm caused by corporate greed. Exhibit A: the foreclosure crisis. In pursuit of record profits, the nation's largest banks chased rising home values, signed low-income buyers up for questionable mortgages, packaged these risky loans into esoteric derivative products, and sold them off to the highest bidders around the world. Profits poured into Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and their peers. After the bubble burst and the economy nearly collapsed, these same banks rushed in to foreclose on homeowners. In the East Bay, some neighborhoods are reeling from the social and economic damage that foreclosures cause. The consequences of corporate behavior such as this are hard to measure, but include everything from plummeting local tax revenues to drastic cuts in social programs, rising numbers of homeless families, and increased crime.

If you think about the legal responsibilities of corporate directors and executives, this entire nightmare was seemingly waiting to happen. Most business corporations, especially the largest publicly traded companies, are disciplined by a code of conduct, and by their peer competitors, to behave in a way that all but requires them to act as sociopaths. Corporations, in short, seek profits by transferring costs to society at large, driving down wages, and exhausting natural resources.

The so-called "benefit corporation" is designed to change this. As of January 1, businesses in California can now organize themselves under the law as benefit corporations, or B corporations, a new legal form that empowers for-profit companies to prioritize social and environmental goals alongside their financial bottom line. Proponents hope the new law will address what many see as the cancer in the modern corporation's DNA, the legal responsibility of its directors to maximize shareholder profits.

Assemblyman Jared Huffman, author of AB 361, the bill enabling benefit corporations, wrote in a legislative summary that "a review of current case law and the code reveals that there is no way for California corporations to emphasize the environment, social welfare, and other public benefits without potentially being at risk of suit for breach of fiduciary law. That is because fiduciary duty has been interpreted narrowly to be synonymous with maximizing profits."

The case law Huffman is referring to begins with *Dodge v. Ford* in 1919, and was invoked most recently in *eBay v. Newmark* in 2010. Both court rulings are widely believed to enforce the sociopathic mandate that corporations seek maximum profit, even if it means clear-cutting forests or foreclosing on entire communities.

In *Dodge v. Ford*, the Dodge brothers sued Henry Ford, forcing him to increase dividends paid to shareholders of the Ford Motor Company, rather than reinvesting the money so as to increase employment and generally benefit society through industrial growth, as Ford said he preferred.

In *eBay v. Newmark*, decided by Delaware's hugely influential Court of Chancery, eBay sued the founders of Craigslist, alleging the leaders of San Francisco's quirky classifieds website had breached their fiduciary duties to eBay, which owned a significant share of Craigslist stock. During the trial, Craigslist Chairman Craig Newmark pleaded that his company's success was founded on a "community-service approach."

While sympathetic, the judge ruled otherwise. "I personally appreciate and admire Jim's and Craig's desire to be of service to communities. The corporate form in which Craigslist operates, however, is not an appropriate vehicle for purely philanthropic ends," explained Chancellor William B. Chandler III, perhaps the nation's most influential corporate law jurist. "Having chosen a for-profit corporate form, the Craigslist directors are bound by the fiduciary duties and standards that accompany that form. Those standards include acting to promote the value of the corporation for the benefit of its stockholders."

By contrast, the "benefit corporations allow directors to take social and environmental factors into account," explained Donald Simon, an attorney with Oakland's Wendel Rosen law firm and one of the driving forces behind California's benefit corporation law. Simon helped shepherd the legislation to passage, and as of earlier this month, had already incorporated eleven benefit corporations, with four more in the works.

Simon said the need for the law in California is due to more than just the existing legal imperative pressuring corporations to act as predators. It's also to intervene against the pervasive greenwashing effects of companies that do not actually care about advancing substantive environmental and social goals. "Greenwashing is a major problem," Simon said. "You can watch TV and commercials constantly pop up with Exxon and Chevron, for example, claiming to be god's gift to the environment." Simon added that "the value of standing out was getting diluted by those claiming to be green, but not actually measuring up."

Donald Simon

Key to the new benefit corporation law, then, is the requirement that companies that opt to become benefit corporations obtain certification from a third party and that they also file yearly reports detailing how they have advanced their social and environmental purposes. "We got to the heart of this matter by virtue of the third party standards and assessment, so doing good is now part of the corporate DNA, versus just being a marketing ploy," Simon explained.

Patagonia's founder Yvon Chouinard, who also played a key role in passing the benefit corporation law, has explained that the new rules allow a company to hold onto its principles, even as it might grow and new shareholders buy into it. "Benefit Corporation legislation creates the legal framework to enable mission-driven companies like Patagonia to stay mission-driven through succession, capital raises, and even changes in ownership, by institutionalizing the values, culture, processes, and high standards put in place by founding entrepreneurs," Chouinard explained in a press release. This change would seem to address the problems that prevented Ford and Newmark from pursuing seemingly non-capitalist goals in the face of greedy shareholders. Patagonia was the first company in California to convert to a B corporation this year.

There are critics of the benefit corporation law, however. Assembly Bill 361 was opposed by the California Association of Nonprofits and two committees of the Business Law Section of the California State Bar. These parties pointed out that while the legislation requires third-party certification of benefit corporations, there are only vague substantive requirements in the law regarding the third-party standard, and that the arrangement allows corporate directors to select the third party, thereby watering down the intent of the law and undermining protections for shareholders in the process.

There's also the question of whether benefit corporations actually address the underlying problem of harmful corporate behavior. "There's actually nothing in US corporate law that requires business corporations to maximize shareholder profits," Lynn Stout, the distinguished professor of Corporate and Business Law at Cornell University's Law School, told me. According to Stout, interpretations of *Dodge v. Ford* claiming that corporate directors have a fiduciary duty to "maximize shareholder value" are incorrect, and that the case hinged instead on the duties of controlling shareholders (such as Ford) not to oppress minority shareholders (like the Dodge brothers).

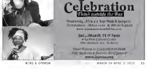
Furthermore, as Stout explained in a widely circulated paper on corporate law, "a large majority of state codes contain so-called other-constituency provisions that explicitly authorize corporate boards to consider the interests of not just shareholders, but also employees, customers, creditors, and the community in making business decisions."

"I do think some of the people promoting B corporations have tried to sell their solution by creating a problem that doesn't exist," said Stout, who added that she doesn't brand herself as an opponent of B corporations. She even saves some praise for them. "B corporations do solve other problems. Traditional corporate law establishes no obligations for directors to provide information to investors or consumers about social responsibility, whereas some of the new B corporation statutes do have reporting requirements that are unique and important."

Stout said the requirement to report more than just profits and losses matters. "It's not that directors have to maximize value in for-profit corporations," she said. "Rather, it's just that since profits are the only info shareholders currently get, they tend to focus on that. The simple provision of social and environmental information might result in shareholders and directors running the corporations directly."

Or it might not. It's possible that the social and environmental harms caused by corporations emanate from a deeper source than corporate DNA. Perhaps it's in the DNA of capitalism itself? ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com



Clitoris Celebration
Think outside the Box
Featuring Africa's Top-Notch Singers
Drummers, Musicians & Monologues
www.[illegible]
Sat., March 31 @ 8pm
@ La Peña Cultural Center
3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
Door Tickets or Call (510) 849-2568
$18/ Students & Seniors, $25/General
www.lapena.org

Some Occupy Cal protesters have been slapped with stay-away orders. Ali Winston

NEWS

ARE STAY-AWAY ORDERS ILLEGAL?

Some legal experts say they're unconstitutional when used against nonviolent protesters, which is exactly what has been happening at UC Berkeley and Occupy Oakland

By Ali Winston

Protests and UC Berkeley have been synonymous for the past half-century. It thus came as little surprise that one of the most visible clashes between law enforcement and students participating in Occupy Wall Street affiliated demonstrations took place on Sproul Plaza. On November 9, officers from the UC police and Alameda County sheriff's departments struck demonstrators with batons and arrested 39 people, all but two of whom were students, in a video-recorded melee that aired nationwide. The November 9 confrontation and the pepper-spraying of nonviolent protesters at UC Davis later that month raised criticism of UCPD to a fever pitch and prompted independent reviews of both responses.

But the repercussions from last fall's chaotic protests have not been limited to police. Last week, more than four months after the incident on Sproul Plaza, twelve Occupy Cal protesters were charged with criminal offenses, ranging from resisting arrest and obstructing governmental administration to battery on a police officer. During pre-arraignment hearings for the dozen protesters in Alameda County Superior Court, Judge Paul Seeman took the additional step of granting stay-away orders that bar the accused from being within one-hundred yards of any UC property in the state. The only exceptions are for going to class or fulfilling employment-related responsibilities.

Since the New Year, Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley also has increasingly sought criminal stay-away orders against people arrested during large Occupy Oakland demonstrations. Following the mass arrest of 409 people in downtown Oakland after a failed attempt to take over the vacant Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center in January, O'Malley's office sought and received stay-aways against a dozen protesters. The DA alleged that she was targeting people who had repeatedly been arrested at Occupy Oakland protests. In a February 19 op-ed in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, O'Malley wrote that stay-away orders have long been recognized by California courts as a condition of release from custody and "serve a vital community need to keep the peace, avoid further criminal conduct and maintain safety in public spaces."

Concerns about public safety have been cited repeatedly by Alameda County law enforcement to justify forceful responses to protests and civil disturbances over the past several months. However, attorneys for the Occupy Cal defendants say their clients pose no genuine threat to the public — as they committed no violent offenses on November 9 — and that the stay-away orders present an unconstitutional barrier to their rights to free assembly and speech.

During a March 20 court hearing, Judge Seeman granted stay-away orders requested by Alameda County Deputy District Attorney Josefa James against UC Berkeley students Amanda Armstrong, Justin Timbeles and Ashley Sadiy Pinkerton, as well as Yvette Felarca, a Berkeley middle school teacher and longtime East Bay activist. Attorney Seth Chazin, who represented Sadiy-Pinkerton, attempted to sway Seeman by arguing that the Alameda County DA had insufficient evidence to support such restrictive measures.

"This is a situation where most of these people have not engaged in a pattern of protest," Chazin told Seeman. In response, the judge said he believed that "enough of a showing has been made" to warrant granting a stay-away order against Sadiy-Pinkerton from campus with exceptions for her course schedule and work as a graduate student reader in the Peace and Conflict Studies department. When Chazin pressed for specifics regarding evidence, Seeman said he didn't "have time to do that on record."

But some legal experts say the stay-away orders may be unconstitutional. Boalt Law School professor Jonathan Simon said there is a "very real concern that the stay-away orders are pretextual" and meant specifically to chill First Amendment activity. "Pretextual" refers to court restrictions that bar someone from a certain type of activity or speech before they have committed it. The US Supreme Court has ruled that such restrictions are unconstitutional. Citing University of Washington law school professor Kathleen Beckett's book *Banished*, which covers the evolution of stay-aways, gang injunctions, and other similar legal tools, Simon said that most stay-away orders are issued in a criminal context where there is a genuine public safety concern and/or a body of evidence that supports the stated need for the order. Simon himself was arrested and charged with felony lynching (preventing arrest) in his student days at UC Berkeley as a legal observer during the anti-apartheid demonstrations in the mid-1980s and was issued a civil injunction by UC lawyers barring him from protest activities.

The apparent lack of violence on the part of the accused demonstrators, Simon said, should be of concern for judges. And Seeman's refusal to discuss the evidence for any of the stay-aways issued last week is, in Simon's view, an "alarming unwillingness to have any kind of debate on the record." Overall, he sees the Alameda County DA's use of stay-aways against Occupy Cal protesters as reflective of concerns that Occupy Cal "would become an extension of a strong Occupy Oakland movement," and is meant to serve as a "cold, calculating deterrent to students that this is what can happen if you step out of line."

Attorney Jeff Wozniak, who represented graduate student Amanda Armstrong, also registered his objections to Seeman about the stay-away orders, which Wozniak maintains are a form of unconstitutional prior restraint. In a telephone interview, Wozniak said he is also concerned that UCPD officers will "take advantage of the vagueness of the order to further harass Ms. Armstrong." The rhetoric graduate student and head steward of the campus local of the United Auto Workers union has been active in anti-budget-cut demonstrations since 2009 and is an outspoken critic of the UC administration. In a police report from November 9 submitted as evidence for Armstrong's misdemeanor charges of resisting arrest and obstructing governmental administration, a UCPD officer noted that he recognized Armstrong "from prior student demonstrations."

Others students facing stay-away orders also have been involved in the anti-austerity movement at UC Berkeley, and face serious repercussions from the stay-aways. English graduate student Jasper Bernes, who lives in UC housing in Albany with his family, had to get a court order just to return to his home. Paul Davalos, a fifth-year student in sociology, was issued a stay-away order from campus during his pre-arraignment hearing on March 19 for charges of resisting arrest, battery on a police officer, failure to disperse, inciting a riot, and obstructing government administration.

Davalos, who took part in the November 2009 occupation of Wheeler Hall and a March 4, 2010 march against cuts to public education that resulted in 153 arrests, believes he was singled out for his past activism. Davalos says the stay-away order will also disrupt his job as director of the Bridges Diversity Center on campus, which brings hundreds of students of color to campus on recruiting trips. "When we don't do our job making Berkeley attractive to them, the numbers drop," Davalos said, pointing to the decrease in Black and Latino enrollment at UC Berkeley since the 1990s. "This is exactly what I was out there fighting against on November 9th," he said. "And instead of listening to our protest, I get beaten up and now I'm being charged for it." ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

EXPRESSIONS gallery
www.expressionsgallery.org
Expressions Gallery
Arts and Educational Center
A Non-profit Agency Bringing Art to the Community
Supporting Classes, Exhibitions and Public Art Presentation
SIGN UP FOR OUR SPRING CLASSES FOR ARTISTS, KIDS AND ADULTS
2035 Ashby Ave Berkeley Ca., 94703
510-644-4930
expressionsgallery@msn.com
Contact Marge Essel at 510-548-2617

COMEDY OFF BROADWAY OAKLAND
Theme Thursday/Friday/Saturday 8PM
TICKETS: $10
($8 w/ code EBAYEX)
DINNER & DRINKS
PARTIAL PARKING VALIDATION
NO MINIMUMS!!!
COBO
Where Oakland laughs
VENUE: MISS PEARL'S JAM HOUSE
(AT THE WATERFRONT HOTEL)
1 BROADWAY, OAKLAND, CA
www.coboak.com / 510.215.2626

BEAUTIFUL LOKS
A holistic approach to locking hair
NO twist, NO wax, NO maintenance
Lok extension, repair and restoration
Consultation Available
beautifulloks@yahoo.com
www.beautifulloks.com

ARTS & CULTURE

CULTURE SPY

TOWN KASHER

Moshe Kasher's autobiography is part of a growing literary canon that features Oakland as a character — and a muse

By Rachel Swan

In the comedy world, having a bad attitude and a knack for self-flagellation is considered an asset. That might also be true in the world of memoir, whose current kingpins — David Sedaris and David Rakoff among them — can effectively present themselves as victims without ever devolving into self-pity. The latest person to master the art is Moshe Kasher, an Oakland-bred yukster, reformed [illegible] addict, kleptomaniac, special ed student, and congenital brawler who ultimately parlayed his anger management issues into a pretty entertaining work of nonfiction. His first book, *Kasher in the Rye*, is both an autobiography and an homage to Oakland — albeit an occasionally mean-spirited homage. It's also part of a growing canon of East Bay literature that features a city as a prominent character.

That's one of the first things Kasher says about his book. "I mean, I was attempting to give a snapshot of a particular time and a particular place," he said in a phone interview from his home in Los Angeles. Kasher moved there in 2008 because he felt he'd hit a glass ceiling in the Bay Area — he acknowledges that with the notable exception of W. Kamau Bell, most stand-up comics can't thrive in an area that doesn't have a vibrant scene. Kasher had grown up in Oakland, launched his career as a theater minor at Diablo Valley College, and built a nascent comedy scene in Oakland by putting on showcases at the Stork Club. He'd grown up steeped in the Bay Area-Los Angeles turf war and made a point of joking about it on his 2009 album *Everyone You Know Is Going to Die and Then You Are! Unless You Die First*. He also endeavored to maintain strong ties with the East Bay, even as an expat. When Kasher filmed his comedy special at The New Parish in January, he dubbed the event a triumphal homecoming. He'd actually wanted to do it at Oakland School of the Arts.

It's easy to understand why Kasher feels such a profound connection to Oakland once you read the story of his childhood, laid out in the opening chapters of *Kasher in the Rye*. The son of two deaf parents — one of whom converted to ultra-orthodox Hasidic Judaism — he was born in a one-bedroom apartment in Queens but moved (or rather, fled) to California with his mother and brother at age one. Kasher spent his formative years in what he described to me as "a very ramshackle house" near the corner of Piedmont and Pleasant Valley avenues, just spitting distance from the King's X sports bar.

Moshe Kasher's memoir is about race, class, and Otherness.

Event Details
Moshe Kasher will appear at Vitus (201 Broadway, Oakland) on Wednesday, Apr. 4, 8 p.m., $15. VitusOakland.com. And at Diesel Bookstore (5433 College Ave., Oakland) on Thursday, Apr. 5, 7 p.m., free. DieselBookstore.com.

He said that people often approach his book with the misconception that it's about a white kid growing up in the 'hood. That's only half true, he said. In reality, Kasher grew up in that in-between space. His mom was a single parent; the family lived on food stamps; he suspects that his best friend's mother was a prostitute. But the Kashers also espoused certain middle- and even upper-class values like health food and psychoanalysis. Moreover, the family's home was wedged right between the affluent hills and the gritty flatlands.

Moshe, who is now lanky and fashionable, with a haircut that he describes as "the Gitler" (i.e. "gay Hitler") survived by establishing himself as an outlaw. In seventh grade he joined a crew of (mostly) white boys who called themselves the Pure Adrenaline Gangsters. He compared them to The Little Rascals. He believes they were among the first wave of white kids to affect fake ghetto accents.

"We were these white boys from Oakland who inspired fear only in the hearts of suburban kids and kids from Piedmont," Kasher said. To kids from the flats, they were just a bunch of pansies.

That alone is the premise for a pretty great story. In Kasher's case, it's compounded by the fact that he's a hearing son of two deaf parents. Being an outsider wasn't just a theme in his childhood; it was elemental.

Kasher in the Rye has all the tropes of a perfect drama. Its hero is maligned from an early age — "I was born ugly" is the book's [illegible] first line. He was sent to a succession of inept therapists, branded with a learning disability for no apparent reason, and placed in special education. Like the protagonist in a Nicholas Ray film, he was rendered "mute" by his environment, and he gained virtue by suffering.

But that environment also shaped his personality. Like many Bay Area children of the Eighties and Nineties, Kasher and his brother learn about sex by listening to Too Short's song "Blow Job Betty" — but the difference is that their mother can't hear the lyrics. He describes the experience of riding BART from Oakland to Lafayette in transparently accurate terms: "... the scenery flicked by like an old-time nickel arcade changing from Oakland's grime to Lafayette's shine." And like pretty much everyone who came of age in the era of Too Short, he's fascinated by hip-hop. In fact, every chapter of *Kasher in the Rye* begins with a rap lyric that serves as an epigraph of sorts. Some are literal (e.g. "the throne" or "illegal business"); others more abstract ("you're in shambles"). Like graphic novelist Ariel Schrag, whose work is strongly rooted in Berkeley, or poet Chinaka Hodge, whose writing focuses intensely on Oakland, Kasher tries to create a very specific sense of time and place.

> "WE WERE TKESE WNITE BOYS FROM OAKLAND WHO INSPIRED FEAR ONLY IN THE HEARTS OF SUBURBAN KIDS AND KIDS FROM PIEDMONT," KASHER SAID. TO KIDS FROM THE FLATS, TNEY WERE JUST A BUNCH OF PANSIES.

There's an adage that says one person's sense of rootedness is another person's hell and chaos. In a way, Kasher's life reflects that. He's someone who spent a long, concentrated amount of time in one place, then realized at age 28 that the only way to succeed as an artist was to get out. But he continued using Oakland as a muse, and it's clearly informed his sensibility. In fact, the story of *Kasher in the Rye*, which is about a boy's life, sure, but which also obsesses with race, class, and Otherness, could only have happened in a city like Oakland, where such divisions are extremely pronounced. The city takes a beating in Kasher's book, but it's also exalted. ●

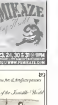
Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

Grateful Heart
Holistic Therapy Center
more than just words
compassionate effective
holistic therapists
sliding fee scale
www.GratefulHeartTherapy.org
(510) 394-5065
many locations in East Bay
and San Francisco

PRESENTS:

FEMIKAZE
MARCH 23, 24, 30 & 31 @ 9PM
TICKETS: $10 @ WWW.FEMIKAZE.COM

Mythos Fine Art & Artifacts presents
Wonders of the Invisible World



March 30 to April 29
Featured Artists:
Ariel, Helen Breger, Michael Carey and Shane Wease
Opening Reception:
Friday March 30, 5:30 to 8:30 pm
1*47 Solano Ave. Berkeley mythosfineart.com

CARRINGTON COLLEGE
CALIFORNIA

SEARCHING FOR
A NEW CAREER?

CALL NOW FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CAREER GUIDE.
877 205-0585 | Carrington.edu

- Over 40 years of experience in caring and preparing students to succeed
- Choose from programs like: Allied Health, Business, Accounting, Criminal Justice, Architectural Design Drafting, and Graphic Design
- Get the individual attention you deserve.
- Earn a quality education that employers value

[illegible]
SAN [illegible] CAMPUS
Antioch [illegible] Hill
San Jose [illegible]

For comprehensive consumer information, visit carrington.edu/[illegible] Offering Associate degree and certificate programs. Programs vary by location. ©2012 Carrington Colleges Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

Whiskies of the World
San Francisco

Dram Club Party at The Parlor
(Fisherman's Wharf)
Friday, March 30 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Advance Tickets Only $30
www.WhiskiesOfTheWorld.com

Glenmorangie, Ardbeg, Masterson's Rye,
Four Roses, Prichard's Distillery,
Wild Geese Irish Soldiers & Heroes,
Douglas Laing

WhiskiesOfTheWorld.com
Advance purchase only. Must be over 21

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Priscilla Lopez and [illegible] Campbell: wheelchair appreciators.

Race of the Wheelchairs

The inaugural Wheelchair Racing Championship takes two-wheeled chairs to the streets

Give Priscilla Lopez a lemon, and there's a very good chance she will make you some lemonade. This is not just a play on a tired citrus trope: The genial twenty-year-old Oakland resident is really very keen on making various versions of the lemon-based fruit juice, and can fondly recall batches made from ingredients like fresh peaches and ginger, which she serves to her friends each Sunday along with a full-course meal. "It's just my drink of choice — my D.O.C.," she explained.

But there's more to be gleaned from the above than Lopez's indisputable love for lemonade. One could also conclude from her weekly dinner parties that she is the exceptionally generous sort who doesn't mind expending some extra time and energy to facilitate the happiness of others. So it's not too surprising to hear her explain how her house came to be furnished with two manual wheelchairs, which she typically uses as mobile dining room furniture. Lopez bought her first wheelchair for her grandmother, who tended to tire from the long flea market excursions the two take when she visits from Southern California. "She gets tired really easily, so now when she comes I just take her around in her wheelchair," Lopez said. "That way, when we go out I can take her around further and longer."

What began as a functional acquisition to accommodate her grandma's tired legs led to a quirky appreciation for the chair itself — one that found Lopez and her friends frequently rolling around her house. Seating, too, is a precious commodity in a house that hosts frequent social gatherings, and the chair was often occupied during parties. So Lopez purchased another. And while it could be considered an odd choice of furniture, it turns out she's not the only one partial to the typically utilitarian devices. Her roommate's boyfriend coincidentally has two such chairs of his own. "When he first came over, the first thing he noticed were my wheelchairs," she recalled. "It was really cool meeting someone who fancies wheelchairs as much as I do."

When her roommate's beau jokingly suggested that they take the chairs for a spin at a nearby park (which they did!) — it set the wheels in motion, so to speak, for the inaugural Wheelchair Racing Championship. Scheduled for Sunday, April 1, the event challenges competitors of all ages and abilities to a series of one-on-one dashes to decide who will take home a crown and their very own wheelchair. While two chairs will be provided for the competition, participants are free to use their own chairs (provided they're of the low-tech manual variety.) Lopez envisions the race — which begins at the corner of 5th Avenue and Embarcadero in Oakland and runs along 5th Avenue's smoothly paved concrete — as an ironic take on the classic All American Soap Box Derby. That means checkered banners, a runway lined with bales of hay, a barbecue, and — because the beverage is Lopez's obvious D.O.C. — a lemonade stand. Registration at 2 p.m., race at 3 p.m. Free. 510-866-4817 or Facebook.com/events/114890358303237

— *Cassie Harwood*

ATTRACTIONS

April Fools Weekend at Playland-Not-at-the-Beach Bring your April ticket stub from the Conservatory of Flowers for $2 off admission. Mar. 31-Apr. 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., $10-$15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, PlaylandNotattheBeach.org.

Digital Storytelling Screening A Final Tribute: Tales of Solidarity & Resistance in the Spirit of [illegible]; digital stories from the [illegible] Asian Health Center. Fri., Mar. 30, 7 p.m., free. EastSide Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-533-6629, [illegible].

Earth Hour Watch the Bay go dark from Chabot's exploration deck. The center goes an hour without light as a larger call to action for climate change. Sat., Mar. 31, 8:30-9:30 p.m., free with admission. EarthHour.org. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7300, ChabotSpace.org.

Ecological Design Tour of Ecohouse With a short presentation of ongoing ecological design [illegible] around the world and a walking tour of the site. Sun., Apr. 1, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., $10-$15. Ecohouse, 1305 Hopkins St., Berkeley, 510-548-3757.

Food for the Beasts Bring fresh [illegible] to help feed the zoo's animals. Sat., Mar. 31, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., free with admission. Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, 510-632-9525, OaklandZoo.org.

[illegible] With [illegible] activities throughout the day. Sat., Mar. 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free with admission. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7373, ChabotSpace.org.

Ohlone Village Site Open House Visit a more than 2,000-year-old [illegible] Ohlone Village site and learn about past and current Ohlone culture. Sat., Mar. 31, 10 a.m.-noon, & 1-3 p.m., free. 510-544-3220. Coyote Hills Regional Park, 8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont, 510-795-9385, EBParks.org.

Urban Farm Tour Ride a biodiesel-powered Mexican school bus for a tour around some of Berkeley and Oakland's urban farms. Sun., Apr. 1, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., $40. BiofuelOasis.com. Sibley Art Lab, 1007 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-931-1348, SibleyArtLab.com.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FIESTAS

East Bay SPCA Egg-stravaganza: [illegible] With eco-friendly crafts for children, an educational egg hunt, and animal meet-and-greets. Sat., Mar. 31, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., free. East Bay SPCA Oakland Adoption Center, 8323 Baldwin St., Oakland, 510-569-0702, EastBaySPCA.org.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

DIY Basic Herbal Body Care [illegible] of Fig and the Moon shares how to make potions, oil infusions, and tinctures from easy-to-grow herbs. Sat., Mar. 31, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. [illegible] PhatBeetsProduce.org. North Oakland Farmers' Market, [illegible] Center Parking Lot, Oakland.

Free Yoga Class Tue., Apr. 3, 7:15 p.m.; Wed., Apr. 4, 7:15 p.m., free. [illegible] Bancroft Way, Berkeley, [illegible].

[illegible] The doctor answers questions about everything from G-spots to sex toys. Tue., Apr. 3, 6-7 p.m., free. Good Vibrations Lakeshore, 3219 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, [illegible] GoodVibes.com.

KIDS

[illegible] With an exploration of [illegible]. Sun., Apr. 1, 2-3:30 p.m., free. Tilden Park Environmental Education Center, north end of Central Park Drive, Berkeley, 888-327-2757, EBParks.org.

[illegible] With an exploration of [illegible]. Sun., Apr. 1, 2-3:30 p.m., free. Tilden Park Environmental Education Center, north end of Central Park Drive, Berkeley, 888-327-2757, EBParks.org.

East Bay Moms Hike [illegible] Mar. 30, 10 a.m., free. EastBayMoms.com. Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, 5755 McBryde Ave.

PICKS

Dance Anywhere.

Weidong Yang

Dance Anywhere

If ever there were a socially acceptable time to bust a spontaneous dance move in public, it would have to be at noon (PDT) on Friday, Mar. 30. That's when scores of people around the world simultaneously suspend their respective routines and start dancing — anywhere. While any public arena could transform into a temporary dance floor (one can only hope this leads to [illegible] postal workers and police officers), Push Dance Company hosts a filmed group dance at the Oakland Museum of California (1000 Oak St., Oakland), where dancers will shimmy from the museum's Oak Street Plaza to the Zen rock garden. Free. DanceAnywhere.org. — *Cassie Harwood*

Bicycle Bingo

While beer-fueled bike rides are not an advisable form of fitness, there's really nothing wrong with getting sloshed and playing a good-old game of bicycle-powered bingo. Every Thursday, Actual Cafe (6334 San Pablo Ave., Oakland) hosts just such debauchery with bingo games played using a bicycle-powered bingo-ball machine along with prizes, beer, food, and tunes. The cafe donates 10 percent of food and drink sales to a local nonprofit — and on Thursday, Mar. 29, the funds help the Community Rejuvenation Project's plans to paint five murals along the San Pablo Avenue corridor. 7-9 p.m., free admission, $3-$10 for bingo cards. 510-653-8381 or ActualCafe.com. — *C.H*

Bookfronts. 1-888-327-2757 x2. EBParks.org/Parks/Tilden.

Ruth Kaiser Sharing her new children's book, *The Smiley Book of Colors*. Sun., Apr. 1, 2-3:30 p.m. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 510-318-8400. MuseumCA.org.

Tilden Mini-Rangers Teens outdoor activities for kids ages 8-13. Bring a snack. RSVP required. Thu., Mar. 29, 3:30-5:30 p.m., $6-$8. Tilden Park Environmental Education Center, north end of Central Park Drive, Berkeley. 888-327-2757. EBParks.org.

Tyke Explorers: Geology Rocks! Learn about the connection between minerals and rocks. Tue., Apr. 3, 10 a.m., 12 & 3 p.m., $5-$12. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

More Listings Online Find hundreds of up-to-date Arts listings at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

LGBT

Butch-Stud Support Group A weekly drop-in support group for [illegible] female-identified [illegible] butches, Stone Aggs, [illegible]. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

[illegible] Wisdom and the Spiritual Path of [illegible] Philosophy Author and former psychology and world religion instructor Alex Pappas draws parallels between [illegible] guidance to spiritual development and the perennial wisdom of Vedanta and other mystical traditions. Wed., Apr. 4, 7:30 p.m., $3. [illegible] Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

SALES, PROMOTIONS & FUNDRAISERS

Global Celebration A fundraiser for Global Woman Project, an organization [illegible] awareness about female genital cutting, [illegible] music. Sat., Mar. 31, 6 p.m., $15-$20. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

East Bay Food Not Bombs Fundraiser With food, music by Carol Denney, and a discussion by Food Not Bombs co-founder Keith McHenry. Thu., Mar. 29, 6 p.m., $5 [illegible] Studio Gallery & Cultural Center, 3901 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-472-3170. [illegible] WordPress.com.

Free Recycling for Oakland Residents Drop off unwanted appliances, mattresses, electronics, and upholstered furniture. At the Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex (2615 Davis St., San Leandro). Sat., Mar. 31, 8 a.m.-noon. Free. 800-238-7283.

International Rescue Group's Music Fundraiser Party With dinner, live music, dancing, and celebrity host Jeffrey [illegible]. Sat., Mar. 31, 7 p.m.-midnight, $65. Pasta Pelican, 2455 [illegible], Alameda. 510-864-7427. PastaPelican.com.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL) 13th Annual Food Swap With a potluck, [illegible] and a home-grown garden seed swap. Fri., Mar. 30, 7-9 p.m. Food and seeds or $10. EcologyCenter.org/basil. Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2220. EcologyCenter.org.

Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL) [illegible] Seed Swap With a potluck, [illegible] and a home-grown garden seed swap. Fri., Mar. 30, 1-5 p.m. Food and seeds or $10. EcologyCenter.org/basil.

Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL) 13th Annual [illegible] Swap With a potluck, [illegible] and a home-grown garden seed swap. Fri., Mar. 31, 1-5 p.m. Food and seeds or $10. EcologyCenter.org/basil. Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2220. EcologyCenter.org.

Berkeley Underground Film Society Join the film club for [illegible] and shorts. [illegible] *Paramount Romance* (1934) [illegible]. Sun., Apr. 1, 7 p.m. [illegible] BerkeleyUnderground [illegible].

Bicycle Bingo [illegible] weekly bingo game with [illegible] to raise funds for various nonprofits. Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., $3-$10. Actual Cafe, 6334 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-653-8381. ActualCafe.com.

Film, Potluck, and Discussion With a screening of the documentary [illegible] at 7:30 p.m. followed by discussion. Wed., Apr. 4, 7:30 p.m., $5 donation. [illegible] Hall, 390 27th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible].

Playland-not-at-the-Beach Leave the Wii at home for a night of game-playing for adults. Thu., Mar. 29, 6-10 p.m., $15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach.org.

SF Barefoot Boogie Casual, freestyle bare-foot dancing to world, funk, [illegible] and other eco-friendly music. [illegible] and scent free. Sundays, 7:30-11 p.m., $5-$15. SFBarefootBoogie.com. Eighth Street Studio, 2525 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

Trivia and Tacos Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., free. The Fireside Lounge, 1453 Webster St., Alameda. 510-864-1244. TheFiresideLounge.com.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

[illegible] Join the Alameda Dragon Flyers for free, introductory dragon boating sessions. [illegible] Alameda. Saturdays, 8:45-10:30 a.m., free. 510-521-7565. AlamedaDragonFlyers.com.

[illegible] Cycles Lake Chabot Night Ride Weekly off-road mountain bike rides followed by pizza and beverages. Bicycle lights required. Riders of all skill levels welcome. Contact [illegible] for more information. Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., free. Lake Chabot Regional Park, 17600 Lake Chabot Rd., Castro Valley. 510-[illegible]. EBParks.org/Parks/Lake_Chabot.

[illegible] Bay Area Backpacking Destinations The hiker and author gives a digital presentation of ten backpacking trips within a one-to-two-hour drive of anywhere in the Bay Area. Thu., Mar. 29, 7-8:30 p.m., free. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140. REI.com.

Spring [illegible] With a two-mile hike to look at [illegible]. Sat., Mar. 31, 8 p.m., $2. Sycamore Grove/Veterans Park, 1051 Wetmore Rd., Livermore. 925-960-2400. LARPD [illegible].

Triathlon [illegible] REI's [illegible] shares the ins-and-outs of triathlons. Tue., Apr. 3, 7-8:30 p.m., free. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140. REI.com.

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

Golden Gate Fields Dollar Days With dollar hot dogs and other dollar delights. Berkeley. $1. Golden Gate Fields, 1100 Eastshore Hwy., Berkeley. 510-559-7300. GoldenGateFields.com.

Golden State Warriors Hosts the New Jersey Nets. Fri., Mar. 30, 7:30 p.m., $12-$1,400. [illegible] Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland. 510-569-2121. Coliseum.com.

2011-2012 SEASON

music dance theater

Cal Performances

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Marin Alsop, *conductor*
Colin Currie, *percussion*
Fri, March 30, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

Marin Alsop leads her acclaimed orchestra in a program including Joan Tower's brilliant response to an Aaron Copland classic and composer Jennifer Higdon's dazzling Pulitzer Prize-winning Percussion Concerto.

Program: Copland: *Fanfare for the Common Man*; Tower: *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman*; Higdon: Percussion Concerto; Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Richard Einhorn's
Voices of Light
Marin Alsop, *conductor*
Carl Theodor Dreyer's
The Passion of Joan of Arc
UC Choral Ensembles
Mark Sumner, *director*
Sat, March 31, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

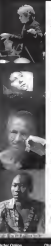
An unforgettable evening of classic filmmaking and superb music that has thrilled sold-out houses from the Brooklyn Academy of Music to the Kennedy Center and Davies Symphony Hall. Performed live alongside a screening of Carl Dreyer's 1928 masterpiece *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, "Richard Einhorn's haunting and profound score sublimely matches one of the great films of all time." (*Chicago Sun*)

Keith Jarrett, *piano*
An Evening of Solo Piano Improvisations
Sun, April 1, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

Universally acclaimed as an improviser of unsurpassed genius, pianist extraordinaire Keith Jarrett returns to Cal Performances to perform one of his legendary improvised solo piano concerts. The performance celebrates the release of his newest solo piano CD *Rio*, recorded live in concert in April 2011 and considered by Jarrett to be his best solo piano recording since *The Köln Concert*.

Seun Kuti & Egypt 80
Thu, April 18, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

Heir to a powerful musical legacy, Seun Kuti lights up the stage in a rousing celebration of Afrobeat music. Son of Fela Kuti, the celebrated Nigerian musician, composer, and political maverick, Seun is a musical powerhouse in his own right who continues to spread this ferocious groove. Kuti comes to Cal Performances fronting Fela's legendary band, Egypt 80.

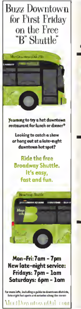


Order Online calperformances.org
Charge by Phone 510 642 9988
Ticket Office Zellerbach Hall
Tue-Fri 12 noon - 5:30pm
Sat-Sun 1 pm - 5 pm

Major Supporters: KDFC Bank of America

Groups of 10 or more save 10% on most events

[illegible] Call 510.642.9988 ext 2


Buzz Downtown for First Friday on the Free "B" Shuttle"

Yearning to try a hot downtown restaurant for lunch or dinner?

Looking to catch a show or hang out at a late-night downtown hot spot?

Ride the free Broadway Shuttle. It's easy, fast and fun.

Mon-Fri: 7am - 7pm
New late-night service:
Fridays: 7pm - 1am
Saturdays: 6pm - 1am

For more info, including a guide to downtown districts, late night hot spots and eateries along the route

MeetDowntownOak.com

readindie}

INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLERS RECOMMEND GREAT BOOKS AND HELP YOU DISCOVER NEW OR LITTLE KNOWN AUTHORS OR PUBLISHERS.

PEGASUS SOLANO STAFF PICKS

The Wise Man's Fear The Kingkiller Chronicle: Day Two

by Patrick Rothfuss
DAW Books
$9.99 Google eBook available through pegasusbookstore.com

This is what great fantasy writing is all about. Magic? Sure. Demons? You bet. Lute Playing Wizards? But of course. It's all there, but what makes Rothfuss stand out is the way he weaves beautiful, complex ideas into a plot that is more addictive than coffee, cigarettes and George R.R. Martin combined.

I don't know if meta-fantasy is a real category or not, but if it isn't it should be, and *The King Killer Chronicles* would be at the top of that list in my head.

Blood, Bones & Butter: The Inadvertent Education of a Reluctant Chef

by Gabrielle Hamilton
Random House, 11/2012
$16.00 paperback

In this engaging memoir Hamilton explores themes of sustenance. One yearly feast she recalls has her brothers and sisters gut drinks in a creek to cool, her mother growing window-green herbs in a mortar and pestle, and her father constructing fantastical sets as a perfect backdrop for the party. It proves sustaining even after the family's disintegration, and ultimately remains the spine of the family.

Hope: A Tragedy

by Shalom Auslander
Riverhead, 01/2012
$26.95 hardcover

In the opening chapters, amongst morbidly compelling lists of famous last words in history, the protagonist Solomon Kugel discovers an elderly Anne Frank hiding in the attic of his newly purchased farmhouse. Kugel is caught between his wife's unwavering desire to evict her, and his own angst of being known as The Jewish Man Who Turned in Anne Frank in the self proclaimed "funny book about genocide." Although certainly offbeat in his sense of humor, Auslander manages to execute a funny novel while seriously tackling questions of death and modern man's guilt.

BLACK OAK BOOKS STAFF PICKS

Thinking, Fast and Slow

By Daniel Kahneman
Published: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 10/11

Traditional economics postulates a "Homo economicus," someone who calculates future values effortlessly and then makes totally "rational" decisions-i.e. it's basically someone with Asperger's syndrome. While a strange assumption to normal people, it's not that strange to economists who often have a mild case of Asperger's themselves. Anyway it took two psychologists, Kahneman and Tversky, to bury Homo economicus. They showed with ingenious experiments that human beings don't behave particularly rationally when making many economic decisions. This magnificent book summarizes Kahneman's life's work. It is a must read for anyone interested in how people really act.

The Great Depression and the New Deal: A Very Short Introduction

By Eric Rauchway
Published:
Oxford University Press
9/08

We really love the Oxford *Very Short Introduction* series at Black Oak and Books pretty much all the 200+ volumes in it. This one (#188) is a wonderful introduction to this important period of history-especially considering what we have just gone through. While it can't replace David Kennedy's 988 pages *Freedom from Fear* this book in a mere 150 pages gives you a lot of insights into what Roosevelt really did. (Hint: radical he wasn't.)

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest

by Stieg Larsson
Published:
Quercus Books, 5/10

It's finally here in paperback and while nothing could be as good a plane read as the first volume in the trilogy, this one is really really good. Moreover, if you have read Volume 2, you really need to read this one to tidy up all those loose ends. It starts with Salander being flown to the hospital after being shot in the head at the end of *The Girl Who Played with Fire*.

EAST BAY INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES

ALAMEDA

Alameda Sports, Cards & Comix
1515 Webster

Books Inc.
1344 Park St.

BERKELEY

Afikomen Judaica Books
3042 Claremont Ave

Analog Books
1816 Euclid Ave

BCA Buddhist Bookstore
2140 Durant Ave

Berkeley Art Museum Store
2625 Durant Ave #2250

Black Oak Books
2618 San Pablo Ave

Books Inc.
1760 4th St.

Builders Booksource
1817 Fourth St

Dark Carnival
3086 Claremont Ave

Eastwind Books of Berkeley
2066 University Ave.

Ecology Center Bookstore
2530 San Pablo Ave

Friends of the Berkeley Public Library Bookstores
2433 Channing Way
2031 Kittredge St.

Mr. Mopps' Children's Bookshop
1405 Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Moe's Books
2476 Telegraph Ave.

Mrs. Dalloway's
2904 College Ave

The Sliver Change of Habit
3084 Adeline St.

Pegasus Books
2349 Shattuck Ave.
1855 Solano Ave

Shambhala Booksellers
2482 Telegraph Ave

Tilden Nature Area Visitor Center
North Central Park Dr.

Turtle Island
3032 Claremont Ave

UC Botanical Garden
200 Centennial Dr. #5045

University Press Books
2430 Bancroft Way

HAYWARD

The Book Shop
1007 B St.

Chabot College Bookstore
25555 Hesperian Blvd

OAKLAND

A Great Good Place For Books
6120 La Salle Ave

Book Tree
2121 La Salle Ave

The Cathedral Shop
2121 Harrison St

Diesel, A Bookstore
5433 College Ave

Laurel Bookstore
4100 Macarthur Blvd

Marcus Bookstores
3900 Martin Luther King, Jr

Oakland Museum of California
1000 Oak St

Pegasus Books
5560 College Ave

Sagrada
4000 Telegraph Ave

Spectator Books
4163 Piedmont Ave

Walden Pond Bookstore
3316 Grand Ave

Waypoint
621 4th St.

ORINDA

Orinda Books
276 Village Square

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

David Polka's art is influenced by graffiti and anime, among other things.

The Origins of the Bizarre

Tattoo shops are where some of the most talented artists display their work.

To the uninitiated, tattoo shops may seem like surprising places to find fine art. In fact, they have become renowned bastions of the ultracreative — uninhibited environments where, among the ever-present buzz of tattoo needles, some of the most talented artists choose to display their immaculate, surreal, hypergraphic work. An excellent example of this new kind of hybrid exhibition is a show of four local artists, *Sweeping of Giants*, at Old Crow Tattoo & Gallery (5162 Grand Ave., Oakland). Each exhibiting artist — painters Shawn Whisenant, Jeff "Weirdo" Jacobson, Jessica Jenkins, and David Polka — is so different and yet so skilled that I had to ask each the same simple question: Where does your imagery come from?

For Whisenant, it comes from everyday life: "Lurking in the streets of San Francisco writing graffiti, skateboarding, traditional sign-painting, and walking my dog are just a few of my inspirations," said Whisenant. "Most of my work, especially my sewn pieces, is determined by what I come across in the street. Found parking tickets of different colors and textures, cut up and reassembled with multicolored thread, all come together in an improvised manner to form each unique piece."

Jacobson draws his inspiration from life and death. "I paint my family and friends, people close to me," he said. "I do this because it is documentation of the world I live in. By taking my subjects out of everyday context and putting them into my weird world, I create a dreamlike mood. Then comes the addition of 'Organs,' these ambiguous fungal-like forms representing the spiritual side of life, like looking through a special pair of glasses. I paint triangles representing all the abstract information we in the modern world are surrounded by."

Last summer, Jenkins discovered an amazing book that held thousands of images. "The pages held digital reproductions of old etchings and lithographs that illustrated anatomical diagrams, old medical procedures, surgeries, diseases and oddities. Modern medicine was kind of like magic to me until I started wrestling with an array of undiagnosed stomach problems, and now I see it as some kind of bizarre guessing game. I think my pieces are birthed out of this fascination and the simultaneous distrust I have for it."

Polka's imagery is far more abstract. It includes "flowing, abstract forms enveloping figures weary from loss and hardship in an exploration of transitory connections, with irrevocable patterns of life and death, destruction and rebirth," he said. "My work reflects a myriad of aesthetic influences including Native American art, graffiti, anime, colonial and Byzantine art."

Sweeping of Giants runs through April 9. 510-834-2769 or OldCrowTattoo.com

— *Obi Kaufmann*

PICKS

Belle Bigsby

Obi Kaufmann

The austere, immaculately-conceived nature paintings of self-taught artist Belle Bigsby feel right at home among the rustic art jewelry of the transcendentally upscale Esqueleto in Temescal. Hanging like jewels themselves in moody compositions of subtly arranged neutral colors, Bigsby's plant and animal subjects are rendered with the detail of fine illustration. Her résumé of exhibitions includes a who's who of hip stores on both sides of the bay, as her meditative yet not overtly decorative work lends itself to expert merchandising. Placed on shelves or leaning against walls, Bigsby's sixteen paintings at Esqueleto seem to be just hanging out as if in an artificial ecosystem. Esqueleto can be found in the enclave of new stores called Temescal Alley (482½ 49th St., Oakland) and is a great stop on First Fridays — although Bigsby's show ends before the next one on Thursday April 5. 510-629-6326 or ShopEsqueleto.com *Obi Kaufmann*

ART GALLERIES

ART Uptown: CreatiVitae A collaborative exhibition with [illegible] Crafts Fair, featuring works made from [illegible] by Oakland [illegible], Shaey Monk, Ruth Tabrancy, Julia Benton, Lonnie Graves, and Tere Booker. Through Apr. 8. 1662 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527. ARTCGallery.com.

Tomate Cafe, Paper Trails: B Zine Show With installations from local creators Endless Canvas, Landscape, Jayne Crespo, and others, and hundreds of zines on a [illegible]. Plus a pop-up zine library. Through Apr. 12. [illegible]. 8334 San Pablo Ave. [illegible] 510-[illegible]. [illegible].com.

Albany Arts Gallery, Peter Gantz Oil Paintings With works of large vibrant landscapes, seascapes, and floral still lifes. Apr. 1-May 31. 1701 Solano Ave., Albany. 510-526-5558. AlbanyArtsGallery.com.

[illegible] Uptown: A Uptown at Works With works by Deborah Barrett. Through May 31. [illegible] With [illegible] anyone from the gallery's collection. Through May 31. 2661 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-845-4848. [illegible].com.

[illegible] Gallery [illegible]: The [illegible] Collection A hands-on solo exhibition featuring the work of [illegible] including a [illegible] of specimens and equipment belonging to the [illegible] Studio. Through Apr. 30. 7-10 p.m. 1027 3rd St., Oakland. 510-817-2238. [illegible].com.

Berkeley Art Center, [illegible]: Exploring the Language of Landscape With landscape-inspired abstract process paintings by Jenny Bloomfield, Chantal [illegible], and Danae Mattes. Through Apr. 1. **[illegible]** With landscape-inspired abstract [illegible] paintings by Jenny Bloomfield, Chantal [illegible], and Danae Mattes. Through Apr. 1. 1275 Walnut St. (in Live Oak Park), Berkeley. 510-644-6893. BerkeleyArt-Center.org.

Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, [illegible] With digital color prints of [illegible] from the artist's Bay Area [illegible] photography series. On display in the Central Catalog Lobby. Through Apr. 22. 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

Books Inc. Berkeley, Ancient Art People, Too Exhibit by Josh Key and Simon [illegible]'s gallery exhibition. Wed., Apr. 4, 6 p.m. 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BooksInc.net/Berkeley.

[illegible] Contemporary, [illegible] A solo exhibition of ethereal and organic paintings by Ann Shiffer. Through Mar. 30. 401 23rd St. [illegible]. 510-298-[illegible]. [illegible].com.

The Compound Gallery, A [illegible] Things Fall Apart With works by Compound Studio artists [illegible]. Animation [illegible]. On display in the back room. Mar. 31-May 5. **[illegible]** With works featuring the [illegible] Dream by Clare Szydlowski. Mar. 31-May 6. 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-601-1968. TheCompoundGallery.com.

David Brower Center, Land, [illegible] A [illegible] exhibition that [illegible] the featuring of "preservation" in the [illegible] of tradition, land, and knowledge. With works by San Francisco-based [illegible] Amy Franceschini and Madrid-based artist [illegible]. Through May 9. 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900. BrowerCenter.org.

Dennis Gallery and Framing, So Many Choices, So Little Time With [illegible] by Steve Hurst, made primarily from [illegible] and found objects. Through Apr. 20. 121 Park Place, Point Richmond. 510-778-5480. DennisGalleryandFraming.com.

[illegible] Solo Studio by Santiago [illegible] Through May 11. 1369 Jefferson St., Oakland.

Studio Arts, Myth and Ritual: New Guinea An exhibit of ritual objects with accompanying myths and stories of twelve tribal groups of the island of New Guinea. Through Apr. 24. 1204 [illegible] St., Berkeley.

Expressions Uptown, [illegible] Land II My Land With land, sea, and skyscapes in [illegible] mediums. Through June 1. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930. ExpressionsGallery.org.

[illegible] Tattoo, [illegible] With sculpture by [illegible] and [illegible], whose works are [illegible] and [illegible] abstraction art. Through Apr. 14. [illegible] Oakland. 510-536-1702. [illegible].com.

FM, [illegible], and Spirit of [illegible] Through Mar. 31 and 483 25th St. [illegible]. [illegible].com.

Johansson Projects, [illegible] With works [illegible] "[illegible] of a [illegible]" by [illegible] and [illegible]. Through May 8. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-9140. JohanssonProjects.com.

John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery, [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] paintings by Deborah [illegible]. Through Apr. 21. 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-0499. [illegible]Gallery.

Joyce Gordon Gallery, [illegible] of [illegible] A [illegible] to the First Lady, [illegible] Through Apr. 13. 406 14th St., Oakland. 510-465-8928. JoyceGordonGallery.com.

K Gallery, [illegible] With Uptown [illegible], and an [illegible] objects [illegible] estate sales and [illegible]. Through May 14. 2512 [illegible] Ave. [illegible]. 510-[illegible]. [illegible].org.

Kala Art Institute, Uptown: Myths of Progress: Utopic Dreams/Dystopic [illegible] The first of a two-part exhibition series exploring cycles of time. With works by Erik [illegible], Ben [illegible], and others. Through Mar. 31. **New Works by Kala** With works by Kala-affiliated artists Susan Belau, Inge Denne, Eva [illegible], Zachary Gilmour, [illegible], Ellen [illegible], Cynthia Ross, and others. Through Mar. 31. **Gallery Conversation: Myths of Progress: Utopic Dreams/Dystopic [illegible]** A conversation with the [illegible] followed by a closing reception. Sat., Mar. 31, 2 p.m. 2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-549-2977. Kala.org.

[illegible] Installations With photographs by [illegible], video and installation by [illegible], and video by Julia [illegible]. Mar. 30-Apr. 28. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-225-[illegible]. [illegible].com.

La Peña Cultural Center, [illegible] An exhibit in the theater of paintings of the [illegible]'s daughter. Through Mar. 31. **Shadow of Ancestors and Angels** An exhibit of oil paintings by Afro-Peruvian [illegible] Maria L. Sanchez, on display in the cafe and lounge. Through Mar. 31. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

MacArthur B Arthur, Afterimage With works [illegible] on a "[illegible] and [illegible] state of [illegible]" by Hilary [illegible]. Through Apr. 1. 4359 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. 510-219-[illegible]. MacArthurBArthur.com.

[illegible] Collection of [illegible] Art and Life, [illegible] The Split A multimedia video piece [illegible] on the lobby wall, featuring the artist [illegible] of milk pouring down a staircase, originally made with [illegible], and [illegible]. Through July 4. 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-643-2926. [illegible].org.

[illegible] Gallery, Split [illegible] With new paintings by Wayne Armstrong. Through Mar. 31. **[illegible]** With new sculpture by [illegible] Bronze. Through Mar. 31. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-282-2335. [illegible]Gallery.com.

[illegible] Uptown [illegible] With new [illegible] drawings by Ray [illegible] and works [illegible]. Through Apr. 15. 1201 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. [illegible].org.

Mills College Art Museum, Studio of Uptown: 2017 [illegible] Thesis Exhibition A showcase of the final bodies of work created by the 2017 graduating senior class of the Mills College Studio Arts program. With work by [illegible], [illegible], Connor [illegible], Rosita Fronts, Margin Johnson, [illegible], Pashmina, Camila Pérez, works from, and [illegible]. Through Apr. 15. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-430-2164. MCAM.Mills.edu.

Gallery Five Art & Artifacts, [illegible] of the Oakland World With [illegible] etchings, and watercolors by [illegible] and Shane [illegible] and sculpture by Michael Carey. Mar. 30-Apr. 28. 5:30-8:30 p.m. 1741 Solano Ave., Berkeley. [illegible].com.

Old Crow Tattoo & Gallery, Sweeping of Giants: A Visual Answers [illegible] in [illegible] With detailed ink drawings by Jessica Jenkins, [illegible] by Shawn Whisenant, new artwork by [illegible], [illegible] by David Polka, and works by Robert [illegible]. Through Apr. 9. 5162 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-834-2769. OldCrowTattoo.com.

[illegible] Pacific [illegible] Through Mar. 31. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-421-[illegible]. [illegible]Gallery@[illegible].com.

Pictorial Gallery, [illegible] With color and black-and-white photographs by [illegible] local travel and adventure photographers. Photos include landscapes, [illegible], and local metals. Through Apr. 24. 2235 Fifth St., Berkeley. 510-644-1400. PictorialGallery.com.

Pro Arts Gallery, [illegible] With paintings, installations, sculpture and [illegible] by [illegible], C.R. [illegible], [illegible], Phil Long, [illegible] Clay [illegible], [illegible], Super Ugly, Dan Weber and Cindy Williams. Through Mar. 30. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361. ProArtsGallery.org.

[illegible] Studios & Gallery, Earth [illegible]: An Environmental Installation With free-standing [illegible] assemblage pieces and a series of icons by Jon Kampel. Through Apr. 8. 2315 Lincoln Ave., Alameda. 510-865-1156. [illegible] Alameda.org.

Rop Ryan Gallery, Night A solo exhibition of [illegible] color [illegible] and [illegible] paintings from a series 10 years in the making. Through Apr. 12. 435 17th St., Oakland. RopRyanGallery.com.

San Pablo Art Gallery, [illegible] Grow Up! With mixed-media works by Nancy Moore [illegible], Lowell Nathanson, and [illegible], [illegible]. Through Apr. 15. [illegible] featuring [illegible]. 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. 510-215-3080. [illegible].org.

SLATE contemporary, Shadows + Structure With paintings by Anne Subercaseaux and photography by Cameron Bramall-Laemth. Plus works and suburban photography by [illegible] Rave and [illegible] on display in the hall gallery. Through Apr. 28. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-205-8888. SlateArtandDesign.com.

St. [illegible]'s Episcopal Church, The Lost [illegible] Project An exhibition of LeRoy Howard's fine-art photography. Awareness the [illegible] of faith, loyalty, bliss, and [illegible]. Through Apr. 22. 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-848-5107. [illegible].org.

Stoyan + Stewart Gallery, [illegible] With a new body of work by street artist [illegible] LaFarge. Through Mar. 31. **New Works by Stephen LaFarge** Through Apr. 1. 815 Broadway, Oakland. 415-678-2983.

Studio Quercus, Wanna Buy a Duck? With paintings including [illegible] vignettes by local artist Jeff Carr. Through Apr. 21. 385 26th St., Oakland. 510-452-4670. StudioQuercus.com.

Swarm Studios + Gallery, [illegible] Space [illegible] With new works of sculpture, photography, and work on [illegible] by [illegible], [illegible], Natasha Alynseth, and Sandra [illegible]. Through Apr. 15. 560 2nd St., Oakland. 510-839-2787. SwarmGallery.com.

Tayvinh Contemporary, Beyond the Lens Photography by Johnna Arnold, [illegible] Rosove, and Lothar [illegible]. Through Mar. 31. Free. 805 Colusa Ave., Berkeley. 510-526-1214. Tayvinh.com.

UC Berkeley Anatomy Studio, Letters from Emptiness With paintings depicting crystalline or fluid structures by [illegible]. Through May 4. 230 [illegible] Hall, Berkeley. 510-642-6000.

Uptown District, [illegible] Stroll A weekly component to Art Murmur but with fewer [illegible] and more focus on the galleries. Visit OaklandArtMurmur.org for a full list of participating Oakland galleries. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. 14th St. at Telegraph Ave., [illegible].

Vessel Gallery, [illegible] Uptown [illegible] A group show celebrating Oakland Women's [illegible], with Natalie Cartwright, [illegible], Bob Lau, Liz [illegible], Christy [illegible], and Allyne Wood. Through Mar. 18. **[illegible] of [illegible]** With painting and sculpture by Luke [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Morgania [illegible], Wayne [illegible], Cyrus Frank and Sandey Ivara. Apr. 3-28. 481 25th St., Oakland.

Vintage Berkeley, [illegible] Carvings and Paintings by Chris Berkeley With wood carvings of people and paintings of structures from an upward perspective. Through Apr. 16. [illegible]. 2959 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-549-0335. VintageBerkeley.com.

The Warehouse 416, Highway With works by Zach Menich, [illegible] Gorvani, [illegible], [illegible], and Shannon White. Through Mar. 31. 416 26th St., Oakland. 510-823-1653. Warehouse416.com.

Goods, Services & Opportunities

Cash For Cars
Any Car/truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come to You! Call for Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com (AAN CAN)

Boudoir Photography
Get professional hair & makeup plus high res, retouched images for your inner sex kitten by the Makafoto team. Check out makafoto.wordpress.com for more info.

Prak Gardening
Yard work, New lawn, Sprinklers, Retouling, Clean up, New Fence, Trimming, Removing And MORE.
For a free estimate please call:
Sameoun @ 510-459 3317 (cell)
OR 510 669 1854 (home)

It's 2012
Fix your pipes before the End of the World!

Fazule & Sons Plumbing
You got a problem! Forgetaboutit! Residential & Commercial. Our Mission statement: **Your home is your castle and I respect that.** Water main specialist & confidentiality respected. Check out our great customer reviews on Yelp.com! Lic. #750083;

Call Tony 510-534-5480
Fazule.com Your brown is my green!

Deborah's Home Repairs
Carpentry, electrical, plumbing, tile and consultation.
Specialty: Creative problem solving.
18 Years Experience
510-520-2007

BLOCKED FROM YOUR SUCCESS?
Career? Financial? Love, Marriage, Relationships? Heath & Addictions? Bad Luck? Childhood Issues? Negative Energies surrounding you? I can rid you of all these & And permanently!
Call (503) 970-6977

Pregnant? Considering Adoption?
Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid.
Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

Full Dental Care for the entire family! Cosmetic Dentistry. We offer an array of dental services to help you maintain healthy teeth. Our goal is to provide you quality care that you need at a reasonable cost. For a limited time, we have special offers to those who need dental care and do not have dental insurance. Please contact our office at 510 444 0971 for any question that you may have. We look forward to your first visit with our practice.

Free Counseling Berkeley Free Clinic
Peer Counseling Collective
Drop-In Mon-Thu 6:45–9pm
2339 Durant, Berkeley, CA
freepeercounseling@gmail.com
510 548 2570 ext. 2250

Stout Recording Studio.com
Recording, Mixing, Mastering.
Randy Stuk, Producer/Session Drummer
$35.00 an hour. Oakland 510-567 8572

Saxophone and Piano Lessons
Play music for the joy of it. Jazz, blues, improvisation. Patient, supportive teacher. All ages welcome. Specialty: Adult Beginners.
Call Eva at 510-436-0504

No Hormones, No Condoms
Study invites couples to test experimental contraceptive gel. Earn up to $700 + free supplies
800 300-5767/ testmethods.org

Powerage Amp & Electronic
Specializing in Tube Amplification Vintage to Modern. Service, Repair, Restoration and Mods. Mesa Boogie Authorized Technician. Quality Audio Tubes and Parts.
510-846 3113 tech@pwrage.com
www.pwrage.com Oakland, CA

Guitar/Bass Repair
Free Estimates · Free Pickup & Delivery
Fret Jobs · Mods · Set ups
Restoration and Maintenance
Aaron@MarelGuitars.com 925 595-5501

Cottage Inn At Lake Tahoe
Your place to stay on the West Shore! Charming theme rooms include full breakfast.
cottage@aol.com 1 800 581-4073
www.thecottageinn.com

Saxony Apartments
Oakland/Near Piedmont
Spacious Units! Garage Parking
Upscale complex: 2 Bd/2Ba $1395
1 Bd/1Ba $1100
No Sec. 8/pets
561 Oakland Ave. EENFM 510-735-9782

All Areas - Roomates.com.
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roomate with a click of the mouse!
Visit:
www.Roomates.com (AAN CAN)

Trans Plan. Assoc.
Use computer models to research & analyze transportation networks, forecast traffic growth & improve traffic flow. Must have Master's degree, 2 yrs. exp., & legal right to work permanently in the U.S. Job site: Oakland. Mail resume to: DKS Associates, 1970 Broadway Ste 740, Oakland, CA 94612-2219. Reference job TA1 on resume.

Learn Portuguese
Individual to group classes. All levels. Teacher with 25+ years experience. Ask my happy students. Competitive rates.
Maria 510-836-0128
dantasportuguesedass.com

Best Quality Painting
Exterior/Interior Painting
Power Wash. Quality Work, Affordable Prices
Free Estimates. License #916484
510-435 4318 / 510-672-6000

Earth Circles Counseling Center
Compassionate Professional Therapists
Sliding Scale. Call 510 601 1929
www.EarthCirclesCounseling.com

The Macmama
ACSP 10.6. Apple computer support in your home and office. 510-520 7760
www.themacmama.com
cookie@themacmama.com

New Living Expo
Looking for volunteers to assist with this premier show! When: April 27 & 29th 2012 Where: The Concourse 8th & Brannan Streets, SF. You will have an opportunity to experience what goes on behind the scenes, meet and network w/ fascinating people & have fun! In exchange for your time, professionalism and energy — you'll receive a 3 Day gen. admission pass to attend the Expo, which incl. Exhibits, Panels, Free Lectures & Free workshops! Please call
415-382-8300
or email
Volunteer@newlivingexpo.com
sign up at
www.newlivingexpo.com

Help Wanted!
Make money Mailing brochures from home. Free Supplies. Helping Home-Workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity! No experience required. Start Immediately!
www.theworkhub.net (AAN CAN)

Personal Care Attendant Needed
Weekend Mornings
No Experience Necessary
Call (510) 841-2150

BLOCKED FROM YOUR SUCCESS?
Career? Financial? Love, Marriage, Relationships? Health & Addictions? Bad Luck? Childhood Issues? Negative Energies surround ing you?
I can rid you of all these – And permanently!
CALL (503) 970-6977

REHEARSE AMERICA
OAKLAND
MONTHLY BAND
REHEARSAL STUDIOS
BIG Studios Come $465 per month 1st month 1/2 OFF
(510)569 7075 REHEARSE COM

Mr. Techno-Wiz If I can't fix your problem, there is no charge!

Do you need a website?
Contact FIDLWEB
Gorgeous websites for tiny budgets
Elegant [illegible] on all devices.
Swiftly [illegible] easily updated.
[illegible] for small businesses, artists, musicians.
Personal, always reachable.
Peter: 512-[illegible]

OAKLAND MUSIC COMPLEX
Monthly Music Rehearsal Studios
1251 21st St. Oakland (510)406-0097
OaklandMusicComplex.com
oaklandmusiccomplex@gmail.com

the macmama
Serving the East Bay
Mon-Sat 9am-7pm
VERY reasonable rates
Support for your Apple computer in your home and office
New setups, software installation, iPad & iPhone Help, and more
510-520-7760
Cookie Sagebrain
cookie@themacmama.com
www.themacmama.com

M+M Studios
Rehearsal Space in Oakland
1st month ½ off!
510-533-1819
mmstudios.us

THEATER REVIEW

THE RED AND THE BLACK

Berkeley Rep's current production is simple and volatile

By Rachel Swan

Red's set is as vivid as its themes. Kevin Berne

It shouldn't surprise anyone that great swaths of dialogue in *Red*, John Logan's fabulous play about the artist Mark Rothko, are devoted to word-association games about color. Actually, two colors in particular — red (life, energy, passion, sex, blood) and black (death, or the absence of color). Rothko — played by David Chandler in a new production at Berkeley Repertory Theatre — is fixated on the idea that black is eventually going to overtake red, meaning, essentially, that we're all going to die. As a painter he has an unusually vexing relationship with the idea of mortality. The conventional wisdom is that artists achieve more success posthumously than they do in life, but Rothko is already seeing himself outstripped by a new generation of masters (Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Jasper Johns) and by a market that treats paintings as a commodity. He's preoccupied with the idea of finding a custodian to safeguard his legacy.

That's what's implied, at least, although Rothko would never put it in those terms. His "red/black" metaphor provides a veiled way to address all his fears about death, obsolescence, and finance driving art. "Black" is a catch-all for an unnamed malevolent force — be it society, or commerce, or "goddamn son of a bitch art critics," or an increasingly apathetic public, or even old age. It seems to always hover outside Rothko's vibrant red studio, threatening to corrupt the artist's muse and stanch out the other colors. No wonder the windows atop Louisa Thompson's primal, cluttered set are streaked in black paint.

And black isn't the only interloper. In the first scene of *Red*, Rothko meets his new apprentice, Ken (John Brummer), an insouciant clean-cut kid in a Sunday suit. The kid is there to paint undercoats, fetch food and cigarettes, and learn the tricks of the trade. Rothko, the master, is skeptical. He quickly disabuses Ken of the notion that an artist's studio is any kind of "salon with teacakes." His first command: Read Nietzsche. Also: Lose the suit.

Ken comes in right as Rothko is undergoing a severe crisis of faith. He's been offered a lucrative commission from the beverage company Joseph Seagram and Sons to paint a giant frieze inside Seagram's new Park Avenue restaurant, The Four Seasons. It's the ultimate sellout job, but it also promises a giant $35,000 paycheck that Rothko finds hard to refuse. And sadly, it puts him right alongside the "Zeitgeist artists" he reviles — Warhol with his soup cans, Johns with his flags, Lichtenstein with his comic strips. If nothing else, Ken provides a willing audience. By scene two, he's traded the suit for a pair of jeans and a white T-shirt, rendering himself a blank canvas onto which Rothko can foist ideals and purge insecurities. It's perhaps no accident that, over the course of the play, Ken is splattered with more and more red paint.

Show Details
Through April 29 at Berkeley Repertory Theatre (2025 Addison St., Berkeley). $14.50-$83. 510-647-2949 or BerkeleyRep.org

The two forge a wary and mutually distrusting relationship that allows Rothko to spend most of the play imparting wisdom. Painting is 90 percent thought, and 10 percent putting paint onto canvas, he admonishes. Life is a perpetual cycle of growth and cessation. And oh, by the way — read Freud. Ken listens with a mix of fascination and horror, incurs blandishments, does the required reading, and concludes that Rothko is the Apollo to Jackson Pollock's Dionysus — the former is all about intellect and order, the latter about excess. (The play, of course, does everything it can to undermine that analogy.) Rothko paces the studio like a wire-caged animal, tilting his head, crumpling his mouth, meticulously wiping his brushes and polishing his records. He's clearly a difficult character to inhabit, and for the most part Chandler does it well. On opening night his first tantrum began a bit forced, but by the end he was genuinely fierce and titanic.

Because *Red* is so laden with dialogue, language becomes a physical presence as well as a mechanism for transmitting ideas. When Rothko latches onto a thought, he tends to verbalize it over and over again. One of his favorites, "The child must banish the father," is oft-repeated throughout the play and it always gets a "harrumph" from someone in the audience. More interesting than the script, however, are the characters' actions. Director Les Waters made sure to always foreground the power dynamic, even in moments that are void of dialogue (there are few). At one such point, the two characters paint a canvas red together — Rothko patiently and carefully, Ken with quick, violent, spasmodic brushstrokes. It's the play's equivalent to a love scene.

For all its cleverness, though, *Red* is a remarkably simple and literal play. The whole thing has absolute thematic coherence. The language is smeary and painterly, the father-son concept comes full circle, and the set bears only three colors (red, white, and black). One scene is blocked so that Rothko has his back to the audience nearly the whole time. But like the color in the play's title, he's still volatile. ●

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

THEATER & DANCE

COMEDY

Comedy @ The Layover Weekly stand-up with rotating comedians. Ages 21 and up. Tuesdays, 8:30-10 p.m., free. The Layover, 1517 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-834-1517, OaklandLayover.com.

Mooch It With Ben Marsten, [illegible], and guest Ben [illegible]. Thu., Mar. 29, 8 p.m. $10. 510-254-2606, ComedyBrillianceworldOakland.com. Miss Pearl's Restaurant & Lounge (at the Waterfront Hotel), One Broadway @ Jack London Square, Oakland, 510-444-7171, MissPearlsJamHouse.com.

As Fabulous: Will Franklin Is Bad on Stage With high-speed piano playing and culture-skewering comedy. Thu., Mar. 29, 7:15 p.m. $10. WillFranklin.com. The Uptown, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8100, UptownNightclub.com.

Foolsaas Stating Month The Bay Area's newest sketch troupe returns to the stage with brand new material. Fridays, Saturdays, 9 p.m. Continues through Mar. 31. $10. [illegible]. Subterranean Arthouse, 2179 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, SubterraneanArthouse.org.

Friday Night Comedy With a diverse lineup of weekly comedians, hosted by LeRoy Stanfield Jr. Fridays, 8 p.m. $10. GalaxyProductions.com. Ashby Repertory Theater, 3201 Adeline St., Berkeley, 510-862-3159.

Kirk McHenry With Baron Pollan. Sat., Mar. 31, 8 p.m. $15-$20. Repertory Sports Pub, 101 Parrott St., San Leandro, 510-357-3571, [illegible].

Open Mic Berkeley A weekly open mic for both veteran and up-and-coming comedians. Sundays, 8 p.m., one-drink minimum. Continental Club, 1658 12th St., Oakland, 510-444-[illegible], ContinentalComedy.com.

Rebecca Arthur With Fred Anderson, Jeff Roman, and Chuck [illegible]. Hosted by David Studebaker and Samson Kondkar. Sat., Mar. 31, 9 p.m., $10. 510-214-2606.

Sabtona Nahlkar With Kali Hess, Josh Androsky, [illegible], Joey Bonet, Ben [illegible]. With guest Tess Trevor Hill. Fri., Mar. 30, 8 p.m. $10. 510-214-2606. ComedyBrillianceworldOakland.com. Miss Pearl's Restaurant & Lounge (at the Waterfront Hotel), One Broadway, at Jack London Square, Oakland, 510-444-7171, MissPearlsJamHouse.com.

Sunday Night Unholy and Pooky Hosted by LeRoy Stanfield Jr. Ages 25 and up. Sundays, 8 p.m., GalaxyProductions. free. Island Paradise Club, 1438 Webster St., Alameda, 510-865-3075, IslandParadiseClub.com.

Sylvan Productions Presents Uptown Night Thursdays, 7 p.m. $10. Vitus, 201 Broadway, Oakland, 510-452-1820, VitusOakland.com.

The Untold Story Improv comedy with Awkward Free. Saturdays, 8 p.m., $10-$12. Pan Theater, 2135 Broadway, Oakland, 415-261-1648, PanTheater.org.

LIVE VARIETY

Dr. Sketchy's East Bay With live drawing of burlesque stars, roller derby girls, drag queens, and fetish models. Featuring the Kentucky Fried Woman. Sun., Apr. 1, 4-7 p.m., $10-$12, DrSketchy.com. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082, StarryPloughPub.com.

Prescott Circus Theatre Spring Oakland Showcase With rhythmic juggling, stilting, acrobatics, unicycle, Pantomime body percussion, hip-hop dance, and balancing acts. Sat., Mar. 31, 11:30 a.m. & 2 p.m. free. PrescottCircus.org. McClymonds High School, 2607 Myrtle St., Oakland, 510-879-3600.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Anything Goes Todd Roman directs the Tony Award-winning Malone [illegible] the classic [illegible] on ocean liner bound from New York to London. Call or check website for specific dates and shows. Through Apr. 29. $30-$36. Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord, 925-798-1300, WillowsTheatre.com.

Dan Reid: a The Hipping Metal: Stan Misadventures of the Theater Pink 80s Reid's one-man show chronicles his misadventures throughout the 1980s, from failed attempts at working as a stripper and a gigolo to his stint as a [illegible] at a restaurant [illegible]. Saturdays, 8:30 p.m. Sundays, 7 p.m. Continues through May 5. $20-$50. The Berkeley Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, Fishbowl.org.

Bruns Theater Broadway Alice in Zombieland Michael Sarno directs a production of the classic children's story with an Oakland twist; [illegible] Alice journeys to [illegible] land [illegible]. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Mar. 31, $10, 510-501-8329, [illegible]. Laney College Theater, 900 Fallon St., Oakland, 510-464-3544.

The Mousetrap A sixty-year-anniversary production of Agatha Christie's famous whodunit. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through Apr. 22. $15-$22. Altarena Playhouse, 1409 High St., Alameda, 510-523-1553, Altarena.org.

The Pirates of Penzance A hapless pirate yearns to be free of his band in this rock-opera version of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic, directed by Jon Tracy. Saturdays, 2 & 7 p.m., Sundays, 12 & 6 p.m., Fridays, 7 p.m. Continues through Apr. 1. $17-$35. BerkeleyPlayhouse.org. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-8542, JuliaMorgan.org.

The Real Inspector Hound and **The Dirty Stories Within** Two one-act comedies by Tom Stoppard, the former an Agatha Christie-like spoof, the latter a [illegible] rearrangement of William Shakespeare's Hamlet tragedy. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sun., Apr. 1, 2 p.m. Sun., Apr. 15, 2 p.m. Continues through Apr. 28. $20. Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Pl., Point Richmond, 510-232-4031, Masquers.org.

Red Les Waters directs John Logan's Broadway play about an artist's struggle to [illegible] at the Roda Stage. No performances on parties dates, [illegible]. Sundays, 2 & 7 p.m. Saturdays, 2 & 8 p.m., Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Apr. 29, $14.50-$83. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

Theater Timothy Near directs Neil Simon's comedic play about cover-ups, confusions, and misunderstandings at a dinner party. Starting Mar. 29. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2:30 p.m. Tue., Apr. 3, 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Sat., Apr. 28, 2:30 & 8:30 p.m. Continues through Apr. 28. $38-$63. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1400, LesherArtsCenter.org.

Selected Shorts LA Law stars Jill Eikenberry and Michael Tucker perform a trio of "Delicious Theater" [illegible]. Sun., Apr. 1, 2 & 7 p.m. $38-$56. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

Sunset Boulevard Contra Costa Musical Theatre presents the Bay Area premiere of the classic Paramount story of aging silent film star Norma Desmond, based on the film by Billy Wilder. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Thursdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. Sat., Apr. 7, 2 p.m. Continues through Apr. 15. $49. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1400, LesherArtsCenter.org.

Titus Andronicus Melissa Hillman directs William Shakespeare's tragedy. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Mar. 31, $10-$20. ImpactTheatre.com. La Val's Subterranean Theater, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, 510-464-4468.

We're All In This Together: Stories of Comedy, Recovery, and [illegible] Stage A one-man show by writer, artist Anthony "Twig" Wheeler. Thu., Mar. 29, 7 p.m., $10. UltimateIsPossible.org. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org. ●

PICKS

Sheena Johnson explores personal territories in LandHome.

LandHome

With her contemporary dance as her compass, choreographer Sheena Johnson explores personal territories in *LandHome*, premiering Friday and Saturday, March 30-31. Produced in collaboration with her company Rebel Home Dance, the evening-length performance comprises a suite of new works. The *Yellow House Project* is a multidisciplinary remembrance of the black queer legacy inspired by Johnson's great uncle, Billy Brown, who was murdered in 1982. *Freedom Study Series*, created by Johnson and cellist, video artist, and dancer Chris Evans, asks, "When have you felt most free?" And the title piece moves through an evocative landscape of river rocks, weathered bodies, and gospel music in search of a place of one's own. *LandHome* occupies Temescal Art Center (511 48th St., Oakland) both nights at 8 p.m. $12-$15. 1-800-838-3006 or SheenaJohnsonRebelHome.BrownPaperTickets.com. — *Claudia Bauer*

Walden Pond Books
New & Used Books
CDs, DVDs, LPs, & Comics
$5 OFF
Purchase of $25 or more
COUPON
(No 1 sale $1 pa)
3316 Grand Avenue, Oak
510-832-4438

What makes a curious reader?
You do
www.read.gov

HOWISON LECTURES in PHILOSOPHY
FREE ADMISSION
LECTURE
JONATHAN BARNES
Professor Emeritus in the Universities of Oxford, Geneva, and Paris-Sorbonne
April 11 2012
Death and the Ancient Philosophers
4:10 p.m. Alumni House Toll Room Berkeley campus
for information visit www.grad.berkeley.edu/lectures/ or call 510 643 7413
GRADUATE COUNCIL LECTURES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

LECTURES&LIT

Elements of a Novel

Earth, water, and the disappeared connect in Carolina De Robertis' *Perla*

Every country's history includes episodes that manifest as open wounds on the psyche of its people and everyone affected by the often unspeakable event. In this country one such episode is slavery. In Argentina a more recent nightmare spawned from the dictatorships of the 1970s and the early 1980s, when hundreds of thousands of citizens were kidnapped and tortured by the government, never to be seen alive by their families again. Caroline De Robertis, technically Uruguayan and raised in Europe but with Argentinean relatives still living there today, began to explore this historical wound in her first novel *The Invisible Mountain* but found herself leaving too many of the most graphic and painful details on the cutting room floor. Hence, *Perla*.

Carolina De Robertis.

The surface story of the novel, which you can hear about for yourself at its launch party at A Great Good Place for Books (6120 La Salle Ave., Oakland) on Monday, April 2, is the tale of a young Argentinean woman named Perla who must confront the reality of her country's disappeared and how they touched her own life, from her military father to her activist lover to everything she thinks she knows of her own beginnings. The novel is a literary descendant of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* but very much its own achingly original, hauntingly lyrical outing. Having workshopped the book in Mills College's MFA program with East Bay novelists Micheline Aharonian Marcom and Daniel Alarcón as faculty readers and advisors, De Robertis acknowledged that she was "incredibly fortunate to stumble upon amazing faculty and peers who could hold a container for such a strange, ambitious project, encourage it, and also really push me to take risks and expand." Researching her subject directly at the source, with relatives in Buenos Aires, was another gift. "I traveled and saw them for the first time in seventeen years," she said. "Considering what a raw wound this part of history still is in Argentina, they responded with remarkable grace and warmth."

Perla doesn't shy away from the details that make hearts ache, but De Robertis' lyrical prose allows readers to lose themselves in the often dreamy-despite-itself world the author creates. "At its best," explained De Robertis, "surreal, fantastic, or magical realist writing does the opposite of escaping from reality. It can explore reality with a different freedom and audacity." Each person's experience with this part of history, she maintained, is "as varied as the population itself." So *Perla* delves into "the full humanity of the perpetrators: the torturers, guards, and military officers who were part of this national tragedy," as the heroine learns of the "death flights," where the disappeared were drugged, stripped, and dropped, still alive, from airplanes into a dark sea.

But what happens if the sea, the literal watery grave of so many Argentineans, returns one of the disappeared? *Perla* goes there, imagining the "unfinished business" these spirits might have with the living, whose responsibility is to continue living without them, and to never forget. 7 p.m., free. 510-339-8210 or GreatGoodPlace.Indiebound.com.

— *Alison Peters*

LECTURES

Celebrating Historic Women of Oakland: With lecture, dance, and discussion on women like Delilah Beasley, Julia Morgan, Gertrude Stein, and Aurelia Reinhardt, @ Carnegie Hall. Sat., Mar. 31, 10 a.m.-noon, 510-336-1824. Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Chabot's Women's History Month Speaker: Lilly Ledbetter: The fair pay activist discusses how she sued her employer for pay discrimination. In the Reed L. Buffington Visual and Performing Arts Center. Thu., Mar. 29, 12-1:30 p.m. Chabot College, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward. [illegible]

Dr. Erica Chenoweth: "The Strategic Dimensions of Nonviolence": The assistant professor of government at Wesleyan University discusses why civil resistance works. Thu., Mar. 29, 7:30 p.m., donation. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824, BFUU.org.

East Bay Women: [illegible] Wed., Apr. 4, 7-9 p.m. Cafe Valparaiso, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. [illegible] CafeValparaiso.com.

Forum: "Politics of Surveillance: From the [illegible] to the Occupy Movement": With attorney, author, and activist speakers [illegible]. Hosted by the Alameda County [illegible] Lawyers Guild. Fri., Mar. 30, 12-1:30 p.m., $15. [illegible]

Jacqueline Francis: "Making Race: Modernism and 'Racial Art' in America": The senior [illegible] at the California College of the Arts, San Francisco, discusses her book about artists Malvin Gray Johnson, [illegible], whose work was popularly classified as "racial art." Thu., Mar. 29, 6-7:30 p.m. University Press Books, 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-548-0585, UniversityPressBooks.com.

[illegible]: "[illegible]: How to Face the Mess We're in Without Going Crazy": The activist and scholar discusses the book she co-authored about [illegible] society. Thu., Mar. 29, 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Jodi Halpern: "Why Doctors Need [illegible] Empathy": The author and UC Berkeley professor discusses her book, which makes a case for empathy in spite of medical [illegible]. Mon., Apr. 2, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-845-1277, HillsideClub.org.

John Connelly: "From Enemy to Brother: The Revolution in Catholic Teaching on the Jews, 1933-1965": The UC Berkeley history professor discusses his book about one of the Catholic church's biggest ideological swings in modern history. Wed., Apr. 4, 5:30-7 p.m. University Press Books, 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-548-0585, UniversityPressBooks.com.

[illegible]: "[illegible] Project: Sustaining a Lifetime": The [illegible] discusses his five-decade quest to restore [illegible], with [illegible] on piano. [illegible] Mar. 30, 7 p.m. [illegible] Pacific Film Archive, 2575 Bancroft Way, PFA Theater, Berkeley. 510-642-1412, BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

[illegible] and [illegible]: [illegible] Ecology Atlas: [illegible] Landscape of [illegible]: A discussion about California's changing landscapes by [illegible] members of the San Francisco Estuary Institute. Fri., [illegible], 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Science and Engineering Seminar Series: [illegible] discusses the Gemini Planet Imager, a new instrument that will be delivered to the Gemini South Telescope this year. Tue., Apr. 3, 6-7:15 p.m. Las Positas Community College Multi-Disciplinary Building Lecture Hall, Room 2420, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore.

[illegible]: "The [illegible] and the [illegible]": An [illegible] lecture series with the [illegible] performance artists. Mon., Apr. 2, 7:30 p.m. [illegible] Berkeley.

PICKS

Dinner and Bikes

Flowers are blooming and the hills are glowing, so it's time to get outside and enjoy two of the reasons we live in the East Bay: food and bikes. The East Bay Bicycle Coalition's Dinner and Bikes event, a "traveling road show of vegan food and bicycle inspiration," features a buffet by chef Joshua Ploeg, plus videos and a slideshow on bicycle culture, activism, and economy by Elly Blue, author of *Taking the Lane*, and Joe Biel, founder of Microcosm Publishing. The East Bay, says the Coalition, is "filled with people biking and walking on vibrant streets." Be a part of it at the bicycle-friendly Arbor Cafe (4210 Telegraph Ave., Oakland) on Wednesday, Mar. 28, 7:30 p.m., $10 (includes dinner). EBBC.org/dinnerandbikes — *Alison Peters*

Robin Grossinger and Ruth Askevold

If you grew up in California, or raised yourself a state aficionado, you may think you know our beaches, coastlines, rivers, wetlands, and golden valleys. But guaranteed — they've changed, and will continue to do so. So what can history teach us about preserving and designing for the future? A lot. Learn from two mentors: Robin Grossinger, director of the San Francisco Estuary Institute's Historical Ecology Program, and Ruth Askevold, a cartographer and designer with the organization, when they present their *Napa Valley Historical Ecology Atlas: Exploring a Hidden Landscape of Transformation and Resilience*. The atlas, a re-envisioning of Napa Valley circa 1800, was pieced together from rarely seen historical maps, travelers' accounts, photographs, and paintings. At Mrs. Dalloway's (2904 College Ave., Berkeley) on Friday, Mar. 30, 7:30 p.m., free. 510-704-8222 or MrsDalloways.com. — *A.P.*

Cheryl Strayed

You're 22 and your world has just imploded. Your mom is dead, your grieving family disperses, and, finally, your marriage collapses. What do you do? Make like Forrest Gump and start walking. Four years after losing everything, Cheryl Strayed impulsively took to the Pacific Crest Trail, alone, with no prior experience, embarking on a 1,100-mile hike from the Mojave Desert through Washington State. It was "an idea, vague and outlandish and full of promise" that she saw through to reality, and her memoir *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* captures every step. At Books Inc. (1760 Fourth St., Berkeley) on Monday, Apr. 2, 7 p.m., free. 510-525-7777 or BooksInc.net. — *A.P.*

Cheryl Strayed

© Robinson

Jacqueline Francis

Learn about the inner workings of America through the context of color-line visual art. Come chat with Jacqueline Francis, senior lecturer at San Francisco's California College of the Arts, about three New York City "racial" artists, an African American, a Japanese-born American, and a Russian-born Jewish American painting in the between-the-war years of the 20th century. *Making Race: Modernism and "Racial Art" in America* explores the flowering of racial art therein and analyzes its underlying presence in discussions of artists of color. Find out more on Thursday, Mar. 29, at University Press Books (2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley), 6 p.m., free. 510-548-0585 or UniversityPressBooks.com — *A.P.*

Grand Bread: "The Dreams of Yoga: The Risks and Rewards" The author Kathleen [illegible] his book, an in-depth exploration into the world [illegible] Sun., Apr. 1, 7 p.m. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland, 510-339-8210, GreatGoodPlace.IndieBound.com.

LITERARY EVENTS

Alameda Island Poets and Juniors Readings by Hanette Bradley Davis. Wed., Apr. 4, 7 p.m. Books Inc., Alameda, 1344 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-2226, BooksInc.net/Alameda.

The Bread Workshop Berkeley A new poetry series with featured readers and an open mic. Tue., Apr. 3, 7-9 p.m. Bread Workshop Cafe, 1958 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-3702.

Fifth Annual Juniors Poets Giveaway Customers receive printed "pocket poems," featuring Bay Area poets including Clara Bellen, Gillian Conoley, W. S. Di Piero, Jordan Fisher, Joanne Gilbert, and more. Apr. 1-30, 10-7 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Kathleen Harwin Presenting and Workshop [illegible] about The New Sunset Western Garden Book. Thu., Mar. 29, 7-9 p.m. Builder's Booksource, 1817 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-845-6874, BuildersBooksource.com.

Elsa Loft Reading from Trail of the Spell-[illegible]. Thu., Mar. 29, 7 p.m. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210, GreatGoodPlace.IndieBound.com.

Poetry Express: Berkeley's 18-Year Anniversary Celebration With poets Jon Stodart and Al Averbach, and a poetry open mic. Mon., Apr. 2, 7-9 p.m., 510-390-8549, https://Facebook.com/pages/Poetry-Express/180439847150813. Priya Indian Cuisine, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-2977.

Proud: Cohen and Rebecca Stone A Poetry Flash reading. Thu., Mar. 29, 7:30 p.m. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087, MoesBooks.com.

Valley of Rebecca & Dreams An exhibition of a book of contemporary photographs highlighting socioeconomic issues in the Central Valley by Ken Light, with text by Rebecca Light. Through May 15. Center for Photography, Northgate Hall, Graduate School of Journalism, Berkeley.

More Listings Online

Get info about dozens more literary events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

PUBLIC INTEREST

10th Juniors Women's Hall of Fame A luncheon and awards ceremony honoring 11 female community leaders in Alameda County. Sat., Mar. 31, 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m. $75. 510-272-6984. ACGov.org. Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension, 4700 Lincoln Ave., Oakland. 510-531-3400, AscensionCathedral.org.

East Bay Juniors for Boys Presents: "Mosaic of Boys' Workshop and Mentoring Manhood" A public symposium for educators, parents, and community members that explores issues in the transition from boyhood to manhood. Tue., Apr. 3, 5:30-9 p.m. 510-[illegible]. EBBFF.org. First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley.

Gang Awareness 101 Workshop A workshop to help service providers understand the culture of youth violence and provide insight into the different gangs in West Contra Costa County, by Marie Hall. Wed., Apr. 4, 1:30-3:30 p.m. 510-215-3048, BrownPaperTickets.com/event/[illegible] San Pablo Civic Center, 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo.

Social Justice Committee All are welcome to attend the bi-weekly meeting in the Fellowship Hall's foyer. First and third Sunday of every month, 12:30 p.m. Donations encouraged. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824, BFUU.org.

Unmasking the Bay Area Bio-Lab and Synthetic Biology: Juniors Justice and Communities at Risk A public forum on the risks of synthetic biology and the newly proposed second campus of Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. Thu., Mar. 29, 7-8:30 p.m. SyntheticWatch.org. Ed Roberts Campus, 2150 Mission Way, Berkeley. 510-[illegible], EdRobertsCenter.org.

SPOKEN WORD

The Berkeley Slam Semi-finals for the Bay Area Women's Poetry Slam team, hosted by Betty Gomez, Eve Jamie Jenkins Seaver, and Katelyn Lucas. Wed., Apr. 4, 8 p.m. $8. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. SlamNPoetryPub.com.

Juniors State Slam Semifinals Bout #4 With poets Leo Prentice Powell, Cameron, Corey F. [illegible], Joshua Merchant, and Panic Sam. Apr. 1, 7-10 p.m. $7. Grandview Grand Lake Coffee House, 447 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-922-0507, GrandLakeCafe.com.

On the Island of the Juniors: Irish Myths and Legends With Irish storyteller Clare Murphy. Sat., Mar. 31, 7-8:30 p.m. $8-$15. EastBayStorytelling.Eventbrite.com. St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Albany. 510-525-3750.

Poetry Unverified A twice-monthly open mic with featured readers, hosted by poetry ensemble Eos Senses. First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Free. World Ground Cafe, 3726 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-482-1013. WorldGroundCafe.com.

Saturday Night Special: Fast Bay Open Mic A monthly open mic hosted by Hollie Hardy and Evan Karp. Last Saturday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Free. Nick's Lounge, 3218 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-652-9415. NicksLounge.com

ORIENTAL RUGS · CUSTOM FUTONS · BEDDING · WINDOW SEATS

1519 Solano Ave. Berkeley
(510) 525 7873

961 Moraga Rd. Lafayette
(925) 299 0882

Receive $10 off any in store purchase when you spend $100 or more

CURATED GIFTS

ASIAN ANTIQUES

SAN FRANCISCO HERB + NATURAL FOOD CO.®

47444 Kato Rd. Fremont, Ca. 94538

OREGON TILTH CERTIFIED ORGANIC

Growers, Importers, Wholesalers & Manufacturers

Loose Herbs & Tea Bags · Bulk Botanicals, Bulk Teas

Culinary Spice Blends · Capsules, Oils, Extracts and Tinctures

CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG! · www.herbspicetea.com

@ Berkeley Public Library

Free Counseling for Landlords and Tenants with the Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board

Every 3rd Saturday of the month
11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
Central Library, Berkeley History Room, 2nd fl.
2090 Kittredge St. in Downtown Berkeley

For more information: (510) 981-6100 www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org

CHANTICLEER
AN ORCHESTRA OF VOICES

WHAT DO YOU THINK I FOUGHT FOR?

Featuring Chanticleer's first-ever film score

Chanticleer breaks new ground with contemporary personal musical reflections on conflict by Brent Michael Davids, Shulamit Ran, Shawn Crouch, Melissa Dunphy and Egil Hovland

Four performances only!

- Koret Auditorium, De Young Museum, San Francisco March 31, 8pm & April 1, 2pm
- First Congregational Church, Berkeley, April 3, 8pm
- Menlo-Atherton High School, PAC Theater, Atherton April 4, 8pm

Tickets & Info www.chanticleer.org/concerts 415.392.4400

RESTAURANT PROVENCAL
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
2377 Shattuck Ave,
Berkeley • 510 843 1535
www.lanoterestaurant.com

Casa Jimenez
Feeding East Oakland
Since 1973
4345 International Blvd. Oakland
www.losmexicanosmarket.com

SALUTE
MARINA BAY
CHAMPAGNE
SUNDAY BRUNCH
10am - 3pm
HAPPY HOUR - Everyday
3pm - 6pm
AUTHENTIC ITALIAN CUISINE
WWW.SALUTEMARINABAY.COM
(510) 215-0803

The brisket was as tender as flan

Chris Duffey

BARBECUE BUSTS OUT

Tanya Holland's new B-Side BBQ is pretty darn good

By Jesse Hirsch

Fill in the blank: The Bay Area is missing a _____ food scene. Troll the food-nerd message boards and you'll find graduate-level observations on the lack of Belgian food ("I dream of *tomato crevette* with real North Sea shrimp"), East LA-style Mexican seafood, and Taiwanese sit-down delis. But any grade-school gourmet can tell you that the Bay Area's most glaring culinary omission is a robust barbecue scene.

Enter Tanya Holland, well armed with a smoker, a smile, and a surplus of true grit. With her husband Phil Surkis, Holland repurposed the old Yardie Jerk space on San Pablo Avenue late last year, giving it a cowboy-themed patina — well-suited for her mission as a West Oakland trailblazer. It's an isolated spot, though not too far from the nouveau soul restaurant that earned Holland the East Bay's uncomplicated, all-consuming love: Brown Sugar Kitchen. Like Brown Sugar, B-Side BBQ fills a specific culinary dearth, in a neighborhood that has had very few dining options at all. In that capacity — adding a fresh face to the barbecue landscape, and to an isolated stretch of San Pablo Avenue — it succeeds.

Will it keep haters from bemoaning the lack of decent local brisket and ribs? Is it a revelatory approach, changing the barbecue paradigm for years to come? No, but B-Side BBQ is pretty darn good.

Holland has no barbecue-specific stints on her résumé, and for all her culinary globetrotting, she has never been in smoking distance of Kansas City, Memphis, or the hill country of Texas. Still, she's a deft hand in the kitchen, and a quick study. At Brown Sugar Kitchen, she melds down-home soul food with her classical French training, a Cal-cuisine emphasis on well-sourced ingredients, and lessons picked up in the haute kitchens of Cape Cod, Boston, and New York. She takes the same polymath approach to her smoked meats at B-Side, and the results are largely positive.

Smoked brisket is a frequent barometer of a barbecue joint's skills, and B-Side does not disappoint. Holland makes smart choices from the start, selecting supple cuts with fat streaks that are soft and melt away on the tongue. There was no unpleasant gristle, and my fork cut through the meat like it was flan. The brisket's deep beef flavor was boosted — but not overpowered — by a light sugar-and-spice rub, and Holland brightly excused herself from the sauce/no-sauce debate with a small dish of barbecue sauce on the side: your choice. The edge also bore a nice crust, and the thin pink smoke ring was pretty as a picture.

B-Side BBQ

3303 San Pablo Ave., Oakland
510-595-0227 or BSideBBQ.com
Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11-6 p.m.
Reservations not accepted
Cash, all major credit cards

Sample Menu

Smoked Brisket	$9 half order/$16
Pulled-Pork Sandwich	$8
Dark and Stormy Ribs	$10 half order/$18
Barbecue Smoked Chicken	$9 half order/$15
Macaroni and Cheese	$4

Holland's fried chicken (and waffles, natch) anchors the menu at Brown Sugar Kitchen, and other worthy items seem to circle in its orbit. The smoked barbecue chicken at B-Side — juicy and lush and expansive with flavor — may not gain this level of cult following, but it's a contender. The baked spicy wings were also on point, with the sizzling skin bearing a crisp dark-and-tan mottle. Those medium-hot numbers begged for a cool dunk in the accompanying smoked blue-cheese dip.

By contrast, B-Side's ribs, another vital building block of any barbecue chef's portfolio, were just okay. The lightly spiced baby backs were spare on the meat and gave a little too much resistance to extraction from the bone. The Dark and Stormy St. Louis ribs had a fantastic flavor profile, a combo of stout beer and fresh ginger, but again were less tender than you'd hope for.

A few items would have fared better with a shorter cook. The sweet-meets-heat pulled-pork sandwich on a griddled bun was generous with the meat and slaw — I overheard a precocious preteen saying, "I need two months for my sandwich!" — if a little dry. So, too, the beef-and-pork sausage link, a fiery Prather Ranch blend, was tasty but tough. And the barbecue tofu cubes were so over-braised that their insides had been cooked away, leaving only a shoe-leather exterior husk. (There may be a larger lesson here on ordering tofu at a barbecue restaurant.)

Besides a "spicy slaw" that was curiously flat, B-Side's excellent sides elevated any main dishes that weren't up to snuff. Standard with all orders was a couple pieces of thick grilled Acme *pain de mie*, toothsome as any Texas toast. You also get bright little dishes of pickled cauliflower, carrots, radish, jalapeño, and onion, a perfect palate-cleanser between the meat. Baked mac n cheese, made with cheddar and a rich béchamel and bread-crumb topping, hewed near to classic. The cornbread was outstanding — moist and spongy with a pat of honey butter cascading over the edges. And even the collard greens, cooked simply with a bit of garlic, achieved a commendable chew.

Overall, B-Side BBQ wasn't one of those rare, transformative smoked-meat experiences I've had at Double D BBQ in Grand Lake or Hill Country in Manhattan. But it was really, really good.

Beyond the food, it's a welcoming, well-designed spot to hunker down (cowboy talk) for a meal. By now you've probably heard that Holland and Surkis commissioned a local artist to superimpose their pictures into old black-and-white frontier photos on the walls. Loopy cowpoke branding has been burned into the wooden tables. Old black cowboy movies play silently on a couple of corner screens. Overhead rafters have an old barn's red-and-white color scheme. The well-curated soundtrack moves from Nina Simone to Coltrane to Digable Planets. Many people who come in for takeout end up sticking around.

Holland has been slowly increasing the hours, bumping closing time from 4 to 6, and she hopes to be open at night by summer. It remains to be seen if her target audience will venture to B-Side after dark (Brown Sugar is daytime only), but it's a studied risk. I'll certainly be there. ◆

Jesse.Hirsch@EastBayExpress.com

WHAT THE FORK

J.J. ABRAMS AND THE GRILLED CHEESE GUY

Plus, the Food Craft Institute is now taking applicants.

By Jesse Hirsch

Michael Davidson wants to be a sci-fi writer.

Michael Davidson, aka The Grilled Cheese Guy, has a life that runs like a screenplay. After moving to the Bay Area to pursue a career in medical diagnostics, he hurt both his hands in two freak biking accidents. His day job soon became too physically grueling and he needed an out. When a national grilled cheese competition came to town, Davidson thought, "By gosh, maybe this is my chance!" On a wing and a prayer, he went all in ... and lost.

Don't worry: Even the Karate Kid got beat up a few times before winning the title. Davidson upped his grilled cheese game and returned to the competition the following year, earning the first-place trophy! Roll credits? Not so fast.

After taking home his trophy, Davidson started hustling around the Bay Area, catering private events and popping up at festivals. He did quite well, gaining a loyal following and several more national trophies and launching a popular mobile food showcase called Behind the Cart. Happily ever after? Not quite.

Not content to be merely a scientist or a grilled-cheese guy either, Davidson once again has taken an unexpected career twist. Apparently, after his day job and his night job are through, he stays up until the wee hours banging out short stories, scripts, and screenplays. As it turns out, the grilled cheese thing was a bit of a smokescreen, a way to launch Davidson into his real career goal: writing science fiction.

Now, the Oakland resident has dreamed up his biggest idea yet. And he won't rest until he's pitched it to writer/director/producer J.J. Abrams. In a shameless bit of self-promotion (in which I am now complicit), Davidson is leveraging the power of his social media following to attract Abrams' attention. Like Robert Gibbs, the overweight Livermore man who recently used the viral impact of YouTube to connect with Dr. Phil, Davidson is sending his plea out into the universe.

"Food was never my end goal," said Davidson. "Now that I have 1,000 grilled cheese-loving followers, I'm using that power as a ploy to achieve what I really want."

His pitch to Abrams will consist of two simple questions: 1) What is something tangible (think bullets or petroleum, not war or hunger) in the world that you would want to disappear? and 2) What is something you would never want to disappear? Davidson says these questions abstractly sum up his idea for a mysterious new TV series, and they are sure to pique Abrams' notorious curiosity.

Despite being a reluctant Twitter user, Davidson recognizes its inherent power as a social connector. In the past, he has used social media strategies to connect with Goldie Hawn ("I thought she was dead!") and to get free passes to the Macworld convention. And until his followers help get Abrams on the phone, Davidson is going on strike.

Okay, technically it's a *virtual* strike: He's shutting down his website, Facebook, and Twitter pages. If you need any grilled cheese at an event, give him a call. 510-502-0757

Food Institute Taking Applicants

If you're looking for ways to perfect your strawberry preserves recipe, there's certainly no lack of options. But Food Craft Institute, the school in Jack London Square that will open its doors in April, is not for the casual jammer. The institute, founded by Anya Fernald of the Eat Real Festival, is for the home artisan who is looking to get serious about his craft.

"This isn't a school for people who want to throw great dinner parties," said Fernald. "It's for people who want to change their lives, and are looking for more meaningful work in the food industry."

The institute offers twelve-week, intensive seminars taught by working, top-shelf food professionals like June Taylor from June Taylor Jams, Todd Champagne from Happy Girl Kitchen, and James Freeman from Blue Bottle Coffee. At $2,750 each, classes aren't cheap, but by the end you will gain all the skills required to start a food business from the ground floor up.

The first class, Jams, Marmalades, and Chutneys, starts April 21, and apparently the cost hasn't proven too prohibitive: thirty applicants contended for ten slots. Future classes include Pickles, Krauts, and Ferments; Coffee Bar 101, a five-day, $800 seminar on business basics for food startups; and a two-day, $175 "black belt" workshop on charcuterie for experienced professionals.

Can the already-crowded market for small-batch foodstuffs sustain all of the institute's graduates? Director Marcy Coburn thinks so. "It's all about being creative, researching what's already on the shelves, and filling holes," she said. Besides, not all students will want to start their own businesses. Many graduates will seek positions in preexisting food companies, or will use the classes as professional development.

If Food Craft Institute sounds right for you but the cost seems prohibitive, apply for one of their scholarships. Visit FoodCraftInstitute.org and complete the pre-registration process; someone will get back to you shortly.

Food Craft Institute, 65 Webster Street, Oakland, 510-250-7811. ●

Jesse.Hirsch@EastBayExpress.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

Enjoy Pizza, Pasta, Salad, Soup, Ice Cream, & Soda!
$5.99 All You Can Eat Buffet! All Day!
2516 Durant Ave • Berkeley 510-644-9999
Pepe's Pizza

Sustainable Farm Tours
Bay Area Green Tours
Experience sustainable farming practices in action.
Travel in comfortable, biodiesel buses & enjoy scenic views with new friends.
Learn about Slow Food, Slow Money, Agricultural Land Trusts, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), Bio-dynamic Farming, Food Justice & more!
BAGT offers a variety of private custom group and educational tours.
Tour Topics: Renewable Energy & Transportation, Water Sustainability, Green Building, Re-Thinking Waste, Green Collar Jobs, Urban & Rural Farms, Sustainable Wine, Climate [illegible]
TICKETS: BayAreaGreenTours.org
More Info: 510-704-9379 Find us on Facebook!
BAGT is [illegible] a project of the Sustainable Business Alliance

TASTE OF THE NATION
SAN FRANCISCO
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012
THE BENTLY RESERVE
301 Battery Street, San Francisco

6:30–9:30PM WITH A VIP RECEPTION STARTING AT 5:30PM
TICKET PRICES: GENERAL $95 VIP $165 EXECUTIVE $500
LOCAL BENEFICIARIES: THREE SQUARES | CHILDREN OF SHELTERS
CHEF CHAIR: MICHAEL TUSK OF QUINCE AND COTOGNA

Sneak peak of the early restaurant and beverage confirmations for 2012 Taste of the Nation San Francisco.

RESTAURANTS 25 Lusk, A 16, Alexander's Steak House, AQ, Beretta, Cafe des Amis, Commonwealth, Cologne, Credo, Dosa, Fifth Floor, FIVE, Frances, Grand Café, Half Moon Bay Brewing Co., Jardinière, Jasper's, Leopold's, Locanda, Luella, Meritage at The Claremont, Marlowe, Mayfield Bakery, Monk's Kettle, Oenotri, Osteria Coppa, Osteria Stellina, Park Tavern, Perbacco Ristorante + Bar, Pizza Antica, Prospect, RN74, Scala's Bistro, Spruce, Tacolicious, The Slanted Door, Village Pub, Wayfare Tavern

BEVERAGES Astraia e Terra, Half Moon Bay Brewing Co., HMS Cockta[illegible], Lagunitas Brewing Co., Pacific Brewing Laboratory, Pyramid, Sawyer, Scott Beattie Cocktails, Smuggler's Cove, [illegible] Spirits, Wente Wine, Whitehall Lane, Wine Sisterhood

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION
VISIT TASTEOFTHENATION.ORG/SANFRANCISCO OR FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @SFTASTE
100% OF TICKET SALES SUPPORTS SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S EFFORTS TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER
Sysco
TASTE OF THE NATION

Freshly Baked Handcrafted Gourmet Pizzas
To view all of our locations, full menu or order on-line visit us @ ExtremePizza.com
Create Your Own CUSTOM DELICACY
Extreme Pizza's Culinary Expert "Chef Matthew"
BERKELEY LOCATIONS
2352 Shattuck Ave 510 486 0770
3284 College Ave 510 420 0770
POINT RICHMOND
151 Park Place 510 620 1800
AWARD WINNING PIZZAS - SLICES - MONSTER SUBS - WINGS - FRESH SALADS - CALZONES

CommonWealth
CAFE & PUB
Mon-Sat 9am-10:30pm
Sun 9am-3:30pm
2882 Telegraph Ave · Oakland, CA 94609 · 510-663-3001 · cmonoakland.com

ADDIE'S
PIZZA PIE
Hours of Operation
Monday-Saturday 5-9:30PM
3290 Adeline St. at Alcatraz • 510-547-1100 • Sit Down or Carry Out

RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Barbecue and Southern Restaurants

Berlyn's Eatery
1321 [illegible] Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible]. The sustainable food movement is ubiquitous above a certain price point, but for urban restaurants struggling to keep prices low? You can pretty much forget about it. One exception: Berlyn's Eatery, Larry McClendon and Dentaye Ball's modest, takeout-only sandwich and soul-food place in Eastlake. Ball's a San Francisco popup chef and caterer who has worked at Delfina, and though he doesn't cook on-site, most of what's good here is traceable to Ball's catering kitchen in Hunters Point. That includes smoky pulled-pork in a sandwich with a judicious smear of bacon barbecue sauce, or a side of mustard and collard greens dotted with plush bits of pork belly. $

Blackberry Bistro
4240 Park Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-1088. The original chef-owner has moved on, but hungry crowds continue to pack the sidewalk on weekends, proof that this compact Glenview spot still has legs. The menu, Deep South meets North Oakland, is pretty much unchanged, and dishes like shrimp and grits, frittatas, and cheesy omelets are just as rib-sticking as ever. Some signature dishes have lost a bit of their former flourish, such as a stodgy banana-bread pudding that needed a bit more soaking and a clammy potato pancake. Stick to the eggy basics and you won't go wrong. $-$$

Brown Sugar Kitchen
2534 Mandela Pkwy., Oakland, 510-839-7685. Tanya Holland's light and lively nouvelle-soul cuisine has found a home at this retro-chic diner set among the lofts and warehouses of West Oakland. Breakfasts include house-made muffins and sticky buns, a delectable custard-like egg and vegetable tart, and light-as-air buttermilk waffles with crunchy, juicy fried chicken. Lunchtime offers ham-mac, pineapple-glazed barbecued ribs, a [illegible] gumbo, the po' boy sandwich of the day, and a marvelous array of side dishes (try the sweet potato-Gruyère gratin). Friendly, knowledgeable service. $$

Everett & Jones Barbeque
126 Broadway, Oakland, 510-663-2350; 1955 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-8261; 296 A St., Hayward, 510-581-3222. This chain of family-owned barbecue establishments serves up traditionally smoked and grilled ribs, chicken, brisket, and beef links for both takeout and onsite dining. Although the ribs aren't up to the high standards of Memphis, Chicago, and Kansas City, they're luscious, spicy, and satisfying, and the chicken and the brisket are marvelously tender and smoky. (The tough, oddly textured beef links are safely avoidable, however.) Sides include rich, earthy pinto beans, silky pungent greens, comforting candied yams, and a crisp, spicy coleslaw. Get the sweet potato pie for dessert. $$

Hibiscus
1745 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, 510-444-2626. Long known for its inventive nouveau-Caribbean fare, Hibiscus recently reopened with an updated design, a different chef, a sleek, adjacent late-night lounge, and a renewed focus on the classic flavors of the American South. The menu changes often and can occasionally feel unnecessarily heavy, but standouts include the sweet potato soup, the cornbread, and the silky-smooth, gravy-soaked mashed potatoes (even if the buttermilk-fried chicken under which they sit is a bit greasy). Service is prompt and friendly and and the food's sure to only get better as Hibiscus finds its footing in its new incarnation. $$$

Full Reviews Online
Nearly 600 reviews searchable by food, region, and price at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

Home of Chicken and Waffles
444 Embarcadero, Oakland, 510-836-4446. After a three-year hiatus, fried chicken and waffles have returned to Oakland. The owners shook out a Crayola box to spruce up an old coffee shop, tricking it out with sparkly blue upholstery and shiny starburst lights. The menu lists every possible combination of chicken (fried or fried and smothered), waffles, greens, yams, cornbread, and black-eyed peas you can think of, each named after a family member (highlights: all the sides and the mile-high coconut cake). And yes, you're supposed to eat the chicken and waffles with syrup. $

KC's Bar-B-Que
2613 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1840. KC's is an old-time Arkansas-style soul food restaurant with a way back in the day ambiance. While you're waiting for your order, wander round the dining room and check out the antique photographs, ancient Victorian politically incorrect tchotchkes, and memorabilia of African-American family life from fifty to a hundred years ago. Proprietor Pat Davis has been serving the neighborhood since 1985, so you know this is the real deal and not some art-directed re-creation. KC's food is sweeter and fruitier and not as spicy as most East Bay barbecue fans have learned to expect. Try the links: They're made in-house and they're good. $-$$

Lois the Pie Queen
851 60th St., Emeryville, 510-658-5616. Lois the Pie Queen passed away almost fifteen years ago, but her legendary Oakland restaurant continues to thrive under the stewardship of her son. The food is only half the charm — the homey, funky feel draws a crowd of longtime regulars. Breakfast and lunch are superb, with fluffy flapjacks, creamy grits, and biscuits worth an interstate drive. Even if it's before noon, no one would chide you for following up your steak and eggs with a slice of Lois's regal lemon icebox pie. $-$$

Nellie's
1155 3rd St., Oakland, 510-465-1350. Nellie Owen — Miss Nellie to you — and her daughter Quinetta lure folks out to the warehouse district of West Oakland with the promise of fried chicken and a gospel-filled jukebox, both of which make their guests break out in song. Skip the pork chops, steak, and sandwiches and stick with lovingly rendered Southern classics. If you get there early enough, order one of the daily specials, like stewed oxtail, short ribs, or smothered chicken, because they sell out by the middle of the evening. All the entrées earn you the right to three sides, and three is never enough. $$

Phat Matt's BBQ
3415 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-879-1134. Tender, juicy, supple flesh is the prime attraction at this unpretentious rib joint just under the MacArthur cloverleaf: Texas-style beef brisket, North Carolina pulled pork, and a quarter-chicken dressed in house-made barbecue sauce are almost creamy in texture, while the brick-red hot links snap, crackle, and spice up your innards. The chewy tri-tip, however, is easily avoidable. Side dishes are mostly unimpressive (exception: the wonderfully tangy potato salad), but don't skip the praline-like pecan pie or the blissful, buttery peach cobbler. $-$$

Picán
2295 Broadway, Oakland, 510-834-1000. This striking yet sultry Uptown destination serves classic Southern cooking with an upscale California flair: lush, silky she-crab soup, fried chicken

RECENTLY REVIEWED

Brasa

1960 University Ave., Berkeley 510-848-0739. In the same space formerly occupied by their popular restaurant eVe, chef-owners Christopher and Veronica Laramie now serve rotisserie chicken along with rice bowls, juicy hot sandwiches, and other street foods of Veronica's native Peru. Fueled by a range of richly assertive peppers, Peruvian cuisine has spent centuries soaking up the flavors of Spain, France, Asia, Africa, and indigenous peoples. Peruvian street food is meaty, meaty, smoky, saucy, satisfying, and faintly familiar, like Grandma's cooking reconfigured by a drunken sailor or a crazy teenager: The French fries are inside the steak sandwich. Sides include salads and street potato fries, but tofu inside a roll or atop white rice is the only vegetarian entrée. Can Niman Ranch beef hearts win your heart? Brasa is a fun, friendly, affordable place to find out. $

Caña

530 Lake Park Ave., Oakland, 510-832-1525. Cuban food is all too rare in the Bay Area, and Caña Café does it well, serving up Cuban sandwiches, fried chicken, and empanadas with equal aplomb. But veteran chef Diego Salinas has bounced around at high-end fusion restaurants, and at Caña Parlor he's adding foams and sous-vide techniques to the pan-Latin fare. The resulting combination, of the light and airy daytime café's authentic Cuban street food, and the nighttime parlor's fancy fusion, is an interesting dichotomy. Both are good, but Salinas' traditional street food is more consistently strong. $$

Babette

2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley 510-684-1446. Babette is a rare-ish thing in its genre: a museum cafe that's not mediocre. Tucked inside the Berkeley Art Museum, this hip little spot is a marvel of cheese-meets-honey, perfect for the gallery-weary savant who needs a glass to nosh and groove. The food is a rotating menu of farm-to-table done well, a suitable complement for the institution that hosted Chez Panisse's fortieth-anniversary bash. The final irony of this winning museum cafe is that most of its customers wander in off the street, completely unaware that it's connected to BAM. $

Haven

44 Webster St., Oakland, 510-663-4440. The latest outpost of Daniel Patterson's burgeoning empire fails to match the hype, despite the star power of chef Kim Alter (Ubuntu, Manresa). The Jack London Square post-warehouse design has some cool touches, and much of the menu is plated beautifully. Yet service often falters, many dishes are served with basic errors, and other items are overwrought and fussy. It's possible that Haven may streamline its service and menu issues, but at price points this high, no one wants to play the guinea pig. $$$

Amba Falafel

6464 Moraga Ave., Oakland, 510-339-8000. This Montclair falafel house has a strange duality: On one hand it is a fully kosher, Sabbath-observant restaurant that serves as a community hub for Bay Area Orthodox Jews. On the other it's part of Jonathan Wornick's ambitious plans to create the nation's first Israeli street-food chain. The falafel and hummus are fresh and tasty, and the sabich fried eggplant sandwich is a less familiar winner. But unless you're strictly kosher, skip the pizza — American fast food items were added to the menu primarily to appease the strictly observant. $

Kiraku

2566 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 510-848-7758. Izakayas, the Japanese restaurants serving snacky items to munch on while you down beer and sake, have been in full bloom for a while in San Francisco. But in the East Bay, Kiraku's owners Daiki and Sanae Saito feel like pioneers of the form. That's not to say they're nakaya purists — they add European, Chinese, and Korean flair to their stable of bar nibbles. This tiny spot has become a late-night favorite for off-work local chefs, hungry for dinner and compelling items like New Zealand deer sashimi, foie gras daikon, and sweet tea blancmange. But take caution: As with tapas, Kiraku's small plates can quickly add up to a big bill. $$

drizzled with truffle-infused organic honey, matchlessly tender barbecued ribs with peanut-jalapeño coleslaw, a towering root beer float with sassafras ice cream. The handsome setting is all high ceilings, earth tones, cool Old South elegance, and the friendly bar pours the Bay Area's finest selection of single-barrel bourbons. $$$

S&S Seafood

4921 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-654-4204. There's a row of deep-fat fryers at S&S and not much else. For more than a decade, S&S has been frying up crispy, tender, cornmeal-crusted seafood. The fried oysters are the best in town, and the buffalo, snapper, and prawns come close. A regular-size order (with fries or salad) is enough for a hungry grown man, and the large orders serve two. For a smaller appetite, try one of the sandwiches, such as the oysterburger or catburger (catfish, that is). $

Scend's

3617 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville 510-547-0238. Newly remodeled and expanded, down-home Scend's serves up the food we Americans turn to for solace, all of it deep-fried. You can order an infinite combination of breaded oysters, moist snapper and catfish dusted with cornmeal, and crispy chicken wings and shrimp. Pass by the sides of red beans and rice in favor of the Bay seasoning-dusted fries and creamy potato salad. This neighborhood spot draws a lively crowd, especially during football season. $$

Smokey J's Q House

3065 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-657-8420. A barbecue revival hit the Bay Area hard at the dawn of 2011, but in some ways, Josh Kemper's South Berkeley cue house is a throwback to classic East Bay stops like Everett and Jones and the shuttered Flint's — places serving up half a dozen types of smoked meats reflecting a variety of barbecue styles. The ribs are infused with sweet-tasting mesquite smoke, the brisket is capable of a fierce crust the color of black coffee, and the Frito Pie — Kemper's nod to Texas trailer-park cooking — is actually good. Best of all, the meats are savory enough to make Kemper's house-made Kansas City-style barbecue sauce purely optional. $

Uncle Willie's Bar B-Que and Fish

614 14th St., Oakland, 510-465-9200. Uncle Willie Thomas produces mega-smoky Texas-style barbecue in barrel grills he fashioned himself, slathering on a marinade he calls "bunga juice." With a mesquite-and-hickory aura that sticks in your nose for minutes, the chicken is mandatory. Ribs and links are equally smokalicious, but the brisket is a letdown for those who like their barbecue tender enough to shred with a plastic fork. The made-from-scratch sides are nice, but skip the so-so fried fish. $-$$

Price Key

Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately. $ — up to $10 per person; $$ — $10-$25; $$$ — $25-$50; $$$$ — more than $50

THE ECONOMICS OF HAPPINESS

SPECIAL SCREENING

The Economics of Happiness describes a world moving simultaneously in two opposing directions. On the one hand, government and big business continue to promote globalization and the consolidation of corporate power. At the same time, all around the world people are resisting those policies, demanding a re-regulation of trade and finance—and, far from the old institutions of power, they're starting to forge a very different future. Communities are coming together to re-build more human scale, ecological economies based on a new paradigm – an economics of localization.

We hear from a chorus of voices from six continents including Samdhong Rinpoche, the Prime Minister of Tibet's government in exile, Vandana Shiva, Bill McKibben, David Korten and Zac Goldsmith. They tell us that climate change and peak oil give us little choice: we need to localize, to bring the economy home. The good news is that as we move in this direction we will begin not only to heal the earth but also to restore our own sense of well-being. The Economics of Happiness restores our faith in humanity and challenges us to believe that it is possible to build a better world.

For more information about the film
www.theeconomicsofhappiness.org

For information about the conference March 23-25th 2012 at the
David Brower Center in Berkeley California
www.theeconomicsofhappiness.org/conference

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 | 5:45-7:45 PM

A Q&A panel will follow after the film, hosted by
Jody Colley, Publisher, East Bay Express
Erin Kilmer Neel, Program Officer, One Pacific Coast Foundation
Kirsten Schwind, Program Director, Bay Localize

Koret Auditorium — Lower Level — Main Library
San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco
All Library Programs are Free and Open to the Public

DRINK BEER SOLVE AUTISM
BEER RELEASE TASTING
ALES FOR AUTISM
SATURDAY APRIL 7TH, FROM 1-4 PM
$20 FOR UNLIMITED BEER TASTINGS
PYRAMID ALEHOUSE, 901 GILMAN STREET, BERKELEY
Purchase tickets at FeaFueled.com/alesforautism
Pyramid
YOUR PASSIONS! LIVE PASSIONS!

Japanese Tapas
A New Take on
Traditional Japanese
Try Us
FREE Appetizer
When You
Order A Pitcher
of Beer
one per table
Chef's Choice
七七楽
Kiraku
2566 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley
kirakuberkeley.com | (510) 848-2758

encuentro
cafe and wine bar
local, organic, sustainable
vegetarian cuisine and wines
202 2nd St., jack london square
open tues. - sat. 510.832.9463
encuentrooakland.com
encuentro cafe and wine bar @encuentrowine

www.fiftyseven-thirtythree.com

LAST CALL

FIRESIDE CHAT

Local love in Alameda

By Ellen Cushing

There is an actual fireplace — angular, vary-colored, and somehow regal looking, appropriately be-sooted, kind of the perfect thing for an overcast and freezing March evening. It's been there since 1942 apparently, though for a significant chunk of that time it was hidden amidst/behind all manner of Raiders memorabilia, so many thanks to whoever set it free.

What with the fireplace, Fireside's aesthetic is planted firmly between that of a nice-ish restaurant (upholstered straight-backed chairs, high, varnished tables, filament-y light fixtures) and a mountain lodge (pool table, bookcase full of board games, *Some Like It Hot* on the TV, framed vintage liquor and cigarette ads), and as such, it is pleasant in that quiet, common kind of way — not a destination bar, co-owner Keely Rogers Free admits, largely because of its location on Alameda's relatively isolated West Side, but also not really trying to be. It seems that she and fellow owners Brian Eddy and Sandy Russell are perfectly content to do what they can do well — that is, capably made, consciously sourced cocktails in a comfortable setting that Rogers Free says tends to cater to thirty-and fortysomething locals and industry types. Fireside is neither fancy-chic nor hipster-divey. It just is. It's nice.

Drinks-wise, Fireside does the fresh herbs-house squeezed juice-craft beer thing, but it also makes a special point of emphasizing US distilleries — "There's so much good distilling happening in this country that I can usually find something that's made as well or better domestically," Eddy explained; the bar's signature cocktail list is entirely composed of concoctions made with spirits from nearby St. George's.

At this point and this area, it's not all that uncommon to eschew corporate beer, but Fireside doesn't even carry most mass-produced liquors. It's an inadmirably high-minded and ambitious philosophy this weaning-people-off-the-bad-stuff-by-sheer-force, but if anyone can make it work it's this place.

On Sunday, for example, when a customer asked for a Stoli and was a little surprised to hear Fireside didn't carry it, Eddy — with a sweet, unassuming ness that belies the fact the she knows way, way more about liquor than you — managed to not only assuage any confusion but talk him into a sugarcane vodka from Hawaii, certainly something he would never have tried otherwise (he let me taste it; it was delicious).

I tried a Sage Smash (lime juice, St. George's Hangar One kaffir lime vodka, sugar, sage, $9): a little blunt, but nonetheless well-intentioned, and even better next to the fire.

Fireside Lounge, 1453 Webster St., Alameda, 510-864-1244, TheFiresideLounge.com ●

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

The Sunny Side Café
3 Time Winner
Best of the East Bay
Best Breakfast/Brunch
WINNER
WINNER 2010
M-F 8am - 3pm
Weekends 8:30am - 3pm
2136 OXFORD ST. @ CENTER
BERKELEY 94704
1499 SOLANO AVE.
ALBANY 94706
WWW.THESUNNYSIDECAFE.COM

Land of the
Rising Sun
Kama
GRILLED
YELLOWTAIL
CHEEK IS SO
OLD SCHOOL!
KAMAKURA
510-521-9121
kamakurarestaurant.com

24 Taps • Kegs To Go • Outdoor Seating
Retail Sales • Growler Fills
DRAKES BREWING
BARREL HOUSE
TAP ROOM ... RETAIL SALES
OPEN
WED-SUN
1933 Davis St
SAN LEANDRO
(Just off 880 at the
West Gate Center, behind Walmart)
510-568-2739
www.drinkdrakes.com

FOOD&WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Barrel Tasting Weekend Sixty wine tastings, discounts, and discussions at participating Livermore Valley wineries. Mar. 31-Apr. 1, 12-4:30 p.m. $35-$50. LVWine.org. Las Positas Vineyards, 1828 Pinnacle Place, Livermore. 925-449-9463. LasPositasVineyards.com.

Berkeley Art and Wine Festival Wine club winemaker Dennis Shaw discusses and shares the vineyard's cabernet sauvignon. Wed., Apr. 4, 6-8:30 p.m. $100. BerkeleyArtandWine.com. Claremont Hotel Club & Spa, 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley. 510-843-3000. ClaremontResort.com.

Blue Bottle Market Cupping Taste Blue Bottle's newest roasts and learn what makes them unique. Sundays, 2-3 p.m. free. Blue Bottle Coffee, 300 Webster St., Oakland. 510-653-4843. BlueBottleCoffee.net.

Dope Wine Dinner Hosting Mappina Aldo and his wines. Sun., Apr. 1, 6 p.m. $75. dope, 4133 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-652-5870. DopeAdvisory.com/dope.

Food Play Fresh Approach hosts a monthly hands-on cooking class. First Sunday of every month, 10-11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m., free. InstantFoodMarketing.PCFMA.com. Jack London Square Farmer's Market, Webster and Embarcadero, Oakland.

Off the Grid A weekly food truck gathering on Shattuck Avenue at Rose Street, Berkeley. Wednesdays, 5-9 p.m.

Pasta Competition Bring a pasta dish (with at least one ingredient from A.G. Ferrari Foods) to the store's Montclair location (6119 La Salle Ave., Oakland) for a chance to win six months-worth of pasta. Fri., Mar. 30, 6 p.m. free. 510-339-9110. AGFerrari.com.

Pop-up Fridays Lisa Tamala serves a non-Ortsale [illegible] menu featuring a rotating selection of Taylor's Sausages. Plus local food and wine at participating merchants. Fridays, 12-8 p.m. Continues through May 25. Swan's Marketplace, 538 9th St., Oakland. SwanWay.com.

"Tagine" Moroccan Pop-up Night With Moroccan food prepared by chef Zouhair Karam. Every other Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Guerilla Cafe, 1620 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-2233. GuerillaCafe.com.

Urbano Wine Tasting Weekly. Saturdays, Sundays, 1-5 p.m. free. Urbano Cellars, 1400 63rd St., Emeryville. 415-890-1835. UrbanoCellars.com.

Warrior Girls at Ozumo Watch Golden State Warriors away games, bar bites, and Market-fresh specials. Sun., Apr. 1, 6 p.m.; Tue., Apr. 3, 5 p.m.; Sun., Apr. 22, 4 p.m. Ozumo Oakland, 2251 Broadway, Oakland. 510-286-9866. OzumoOakland.com.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus family activities. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. PCFMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda.

BAHIA Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands at limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Bay Area Hispano Institute for Advancement, 1718 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-525-4462. BAHIAinc.com.

Bayfair Senior Farmers' Market Fresh produce supplied by local organic and specialty farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-357-0000. ShopBayfair.com.

BYA Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands at limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Berkeley Youth Alternatives, 1255 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-845-9010. BYAonline.org.

Frances Albrier Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands at limited-resource neighborhoods. Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St., Berkeley. 510-981-5150. CI.Berkeley.CA.US.

Fruitvale Farmers' Market With locally grown and produced fruit, vegetables, bread products, and more. Accepts WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. free. 510-535-6929. Fruitvale Village, 3401 E. 12th St. (at Fruitvale BART), Oakland. 510-534-0900. UnityCouncil.org.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market The weekly market hosts more than 70 produce, prepared foods, and arts and crafts vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 800-949-3276. UrbanVillageOnline.com. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland. 510-238-7275. OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/SplashPad.asp.

Hayward City Hall Farmers' Market A farmers' market featuring locally grown and produced goods from more than 35 farmers and specialty food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. 800-949-3276. AgriculturalInstitute.org. Hayward City Hall Plaza, 777 B St., Hayward. 510-583-4000. CI.Hayward.CA.US.

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market With vendors selling locally grown California produce at the main entrance to the hospital. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With vendors selling fresh, certified organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Oakland, 3801 Howe St., Oakland.

Kensington Farmers' Market With a nursery, fresh flowers, an organic chocolatier, bee products, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, honey, bread, cheese, fresh pasta, and seasonal soups. The market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-647-6061. KensingtonFarmersMarket.org. Colusa Circle, at the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Laurel District Farmers' Market With certified organic produce from J&P Organic Farm and a youth-led prepared food booth called the Purple Lawn Cafe. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 510-482-1906. FoodCommunityCulture.org. Laurel District Farmers' Market, 4173 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Montclair Village Farmers' Market Featuring organic produce and prepared foods. Free parking in Village garage at the top of La Salle Avenue. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. MontclairVillage.com/farmers_market.html. Downtown Montclair Village, LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With breads, specialty foods, all-organic produce, and more for sale, along with special programs and events. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

North Oakland Arlington Medical Center Farmers' Market With produce and other products sold by more than ten vendors, including Frog Hollow Farms, Alchemy Coffee Collective, and more. Also features produce swaps. Accepts WIC and EBT. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. free. PlantLovesProduce.org. North Oakland Farmers' Market, Arlington Medical Center Parking Lot, Oakland.

North Oakland Children's Hospital Farmers' Market EBT and WIC okay. Tuesdays, 3-8 p.m. free. 510-258-7957. PlantLovesProduce.org. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

Old Oakland Farmers' Market Features seasonal produce, breads, oils and other regional foods, along with plenty of samples. Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Old Oakland Farmers' Market, 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St., Oakland. UrbanVillageOnline.com/markets/old-oakland.

Pacific Coast Jack London Square Farmers' Market With seasonal Oakland greens, fruits, freshly baked bread, pastries, cut flowers, specialty foods, yoga classes, live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Jack London Square, 55 Broadway, Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With fresh, locally grown fruit, live chickens, flowers, eggs, and other produce. WIC and SNAP accepted. Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. free. RichmondFarmersMarket.org. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. MLK Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-981-5150. CI.Berkeley.CA.US/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=12100.

Temescal Farmers' Market California-certified farmers offer seasonal produce like fruits and nuts, fresh-caught eggs, baked goods, locally caught fish, romantic flowers, and more. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. 510-745-7100. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-6 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Derby St. (at Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley.

Youth-Led Farm Stand The fresh farm stand in the heart of the Foothill Square neighborhood, features seasonal produce from regional farmers and select urban Oakland, along with bulk dry goods and produce Market produce. At 10130 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Mondays, 3-6 p.m. free. FoodCommunityCulture.com.

PICK

Urban Farm Tour

Learn about the community harvests on Sunday, April [illegible] on an Urban Farm Tour that winds its way through Oakland and Berkeley. Farmers will be on hand to answer questions and offer demonstrations and tastings at every stop. Starting at the Biofuel Oasis (1441 Ashby Ave., Berkeley), the tour includes Novella Carpenter's Ghost Town Farm in a formerly vacant Oakland lot, along with several others where produce is grown, chickens, goats, and other livestock are raised, and bees make hives. 9-10 a.m., $40. 510-665-5509 or BiofuelOasis.com. — *Anneli Rufus*

Voted Best Indian in the entire Bay Area
Zagat rated
Recommended by Michelin
Now Featuring Organic Ingredients
AJANTA
1888 Solano Ave., Berkeley • 526-4373
Open Daily 11:30am-2:30pm 5:30pm-9:30pm
www.ajantarestaurant.com

nature's express
If our 5-A-Day smoothie and our Mushroom chik'un melt doesn't cure your hangover – nothing will
Helping People Eat Less Meat Since 2010
1823 Solano Ave. Berkeley, CA 94707
510-527-5532 naturesexpress.com
Order online!
Find Us On Facebook: Nature's Express, Berkeley CA

CAÑA
CUBAN PARLOR & CAFE
SUNDAY FUNDAY
Live Cuban Music & DJ
Cuban Brunch
$15 Bottomless Mimosas • 11am-2:30pm
530 Lake Park Avenue Oakland
510 832 1515

SouleyVegan
VEGAN SOUL FOOD
Keeping the Soul As introducing the Food
OPEN TUESDAY-SAT 11AM-9PM
301 Broadway Oakland
510 922 1615 • SouleyVegan.com

BRINGING TO LIFE ANCIENT CULINARY ART
20% OFF ALL CLASSES FOR EBX READERS
BRUNDO SPICES & HERBS
RECIPES ONLINE AT BRUNDO.COM
1960 MANDELA PARKWAY OAKLAND, CA 94608 (510) 601 7999

THE TERRACE ROOM
Hours
Lunch M-F: 11am - 2pm
Dinner M-F: 5pm - 9pm Th-F: 5pm - 9:30pm
EXPERIENCE THE VIEW
— MONTHLY EVENTS —
1st Thurs. - OFE
2nd Thurs. - Live Music
3rd Thurs. - Tastings at the Lake
4th Thurs. - Complimentary Happy Hour Bites
1800 Madison Street Oakland (510) 903-3772 www.TheTerraceRoom.com

MOVIES

HUNGRY FOR MORE

Can a heavily advertised youth-market fantasy really be any good?

By Kelly Vance

Jennifer Lawrence stars as sixteen-year-old heroine Katniss Everdeen in *The Hunger Games*.

The Hunger Games arrives in theaters under a mountain of publicity. Don't let the hype scare you off. The view from the top of that pile of advertising is refreshingly newsworthy and relevant, words we don't often use in describing broad-stroke, violent fantasies pitched at PG-13 audiences.

That's because the story — adapted from the first volume of author Suzanne Collins' phenomenally popular trilogy of young adult novels and directed by Gary Ross — captures the spirit of the times in clear, deliberate terms. In an unspecified future date in which the former USA has become the nation of Panem (as in the Latin phrase *panem et circenses*, or "bread and circuses"), the ruling class in The Capitol demands from the under-classes in the country's twelve outlying districts an annual "Reaping," in which two children from the twelve-to-eighteen age group in each district are chosen to fight to the death for the amusement of the elite.

Thus the peasants, designated as "Tributes," kill each other: 24 contestants, last one standing wins. The Hunger Games serve two purposes in the decidedly decadent social fabric of Panem: to punish the proles for an earlier rebellion, and to help refocus the value system of the upper classes, otherwise maintained by fences, drone aircraft, heavily armed police, and omnipresent video surveillance.

District 12, where sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) lives with her family, is a dead ringer for the worst parts of Appalachia: hills and hollers, coal mines, rickety shacks, pinched-faced residents searching high and low for something to eat. Katniss supplements her diet by hunting in the forest with her trusty bow and arrow, and has little time for romance with Gale (Liam Hemsworth), a shy local lad who likes her. When the day of the Reaping comes, Katniss volunteers to take the place of her little sister Prim (Willow Shields) alongside the boy chosen by lot, Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson), a baker's son. It so happens that Peeta has nurtured a crush on Katniss ever since the day he tossed her a burnt bread roll instead of giving it to his hogs. And now they're on the train to gladiator school and the inevitable painful, nationally televised death in the woodsy Hunger Games arena. They may eventually be forced to kill each other.

The Hunger Games
Directed by Gary Ross.
With Jennifer Lawrence and Josh Hutcherson.
Now playing.

There's no use bringing up the scenario's resemblance to *Battle Royale*, *The Running Man*, *1984*, or any "reality TV" show. *The Hunger Games* is 100-percent derivative, but it doesn't matter once we buy into Katniss and her ethic. Twenty-one-year-old actress Lawrence, more than anything else, lifts the film up and reestablishes it at precisely the right moment in the narrative. Her performance pushes the questionable sci-fi premise into another category in which we can relax and take note of rather Collins' social intentions — plus the requisite violence, here substantially restrained.

Lawrence showed plenty of promise in *Like Crazy*, *The Beaver*, and *X-Men: First Class*, but it was her role as Ree, the hill-country heroine of Debra Granik's gritty drama *Winter's Bone*, that marked her as unique. The part of Katniss, a fiercely determined girl from the same hard-scrabble environment, enlarges on that previous character with the added touch of the mythic. Lawrence has a depth as her screen presence that cannot be taught. There's anger there, and resolve, and what can only be called stoicism — a bunch of descriptives seldom applied to beautiful Hollywood starlets. Not always pretty, but undeniably true to life. Or to our most idealistic conceptions of what life should be, take your pick.

Erstwhile freedom fighter Katniss is propped up by a strong cast of characters heavy on the histrionics. Any dystopian fantasy that contains Donald Sutherland as the imperious president, Stanley Tucci as a grotesquely famous, purple-haired TV emcee, and Woody Harrelson as a drunken ex-gladiator who mentors the good guys, will always find a home somewhere. The key words to describe the members of the elite group of Panem are "effete" and "jaded." For the proles, "hungry" will suffice. But even the gnarliest of the Hunger Games alpha males, Cato (Alexander Ludwig), has a back story that can break your heart. Actor Hutcherson from *The Kids Are All Right* — like Lawrence a Kentucky native — makes Katniss' comrade in arms Peeta probably the most conflicted character in the piece. His indecision dovetails perfectly with her steadfast courage when the going gets bloody. Meanwhile, little Rue (the charmingly mousy Amandla Stenberg) comes close to grabbing the spotlight temporarily from Katniss.

Director Ross is a career screenwriter who helmed the unremarkable *Seabiscuit* and *Pleasantville*. Here, with a potential franchise in his lap, he wisely lets Collins' mythology and his visual sense set the pace. For all its frequently gaudy production design, this is more of a spectacle of personality than of set pieces. District 12 is a little too drab. The Capitol, full of privileged clowns like Effie Trinket (Elizabeth Banks) and white-uniformed police, is already on its slide to oblivion. It's a Las Vegas idea of a metropolis. The CGI pit bulls are frankly stupid, but nothing much else is.

Reviewers can be excused for occasionally growing callous, particularly when walking into a movie promoted as aggressively as this one. The most heavily advertised products are all too often the shoddiest, idea-wise. On the way out of the theater, an ironic one-line critique came to mind: "Not cynical enough." It's very rare to encounter a relatively big-budget entertainment pitched at young audiences that doesn't seem calculated and/or superficial. But as it sank in, *The Hunger Games* erased almost every potential objection. There's not a shred of cynicism anywhere in it.

Let's not belabor the real-world resonance, but Collins' screenplay — adapted with director Ross and writer Billy Ray — has the makings of a populist legend: a cautionary tale of futile bravery, a thumbnail history of one possible future. Sutherland's saturnine President Snow has a short, incisive scene in which he explains to his assistant the importance of the Hunger Games. "Why do we have a winner?" he asks rhetorically. "Hope." For the leader of the ruling class, hope is a useful tool, a ruse for maintaining repression. For people like Katniss, it's all they've got in the world. ●

Kelly.Vance@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by J.R. Jones (J.J.), Ben Sachs (B.S.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

OPENING

The Deep Blue Sea As a character, Terence Rattigan [illegible]

Mirror Mirror [illegible]

The Raid: Redemption [illegible]

The Salt of Life [illegible]

ONGOING

21 Jump Street [illegible]

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com or by scanning the code below [illegible] The value is about Channing Tatum the jock [illegible] from *The View* and *The Eagle*, who's learning to [illegible] [illegible] (R.Y.)

Albert Nobbs Glenn Close [illegible] a reshaping of her [illegible] stage role as a woman passing for male as [illegible] in a Dublin, Ireland hotel in the Victorian [illegible] [illegible] (113 min.) (R.Y.)

The Artist The French team of actor Jean Dujardin and writer-director Michel Hazanavicius takes a [illegible] to 1920s Hollywood for the [illegible] silent-movie star (Dujardin) whose [illegible] *Singin' in the Rain* [illegible] 100 min.) (R.Y.)

[illegible] (R.Y.)

Boy [illegible] New Zealand, an eleven-year-old Maori boy [illegible] 1984 [illegible] (88 min.) (R.Y.)

Casa de mi Padre Will Ferrell [illegible] Diego Luna and Gael García Bernal [illegible]

[illegible] *Mama Tombion* (2006) as drug dealers. [illegible]

The Descendants A major triumph for [illegible] Alexander Payne and actor George Clooney [illegible] (115 min.) (R.Y.)

Dr. Seuss' the Lorax The agreeable 3D musical update of Ted "Dr. Seuss" Geisel's [illegible] (94 min.) (R.Y.)

Footnote [illegible] 2011 [illegible] Joseph Cedar's [illegible]

ACADEMY AWARD WINNER
BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM
WINNER
"THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR!"
A SEPARATION
PG-13
NOW PLAYING
VIEW THE TRAILER AT WWW.ASEPARATION.COM

"LAUGH ALL YOU WANT...IT'S A BLAST."
Rolling Stone
JONAH HILL CHANNING TATUM
21 JUMP STREET
MGM
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES
SONY

1 RUTHLESS CRIME LORD. 20 ELITE COPS. 30 FLOORS OF CHAOS.
"THE BEST ACTION MOVIE IN DECADES!"
TWITCHFILM
★★★★★!
TIME OUT NEW YORK
"ULTRAVIOLENT AND FUN! CLEVER AND ACTION-PACKED!"
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
SUNDANCE
SXSW
THE RAID
REDEMPTION
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GARETH EVANS
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS
STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 30
CENTURY 16 PLEASANT HILL
LANDMARK'S CALIFORNIA

[illegible]

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

[illegible]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

[illegible]

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

[illegible]

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

[illegible]

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

[illegible]

LANDMARK THEATRES
East Bay Showtimes • (510) 464-5980
$8.00 Student Tickets Every Tuesday!
Buy tickets at landmarktheatres.com

ALBANY TWIN
SALMON FISHING IN THE YEMEN (PG-13)
A SEPARATION (PG-13)

California
THE RAID: REDEMPTION (R)
JEFF, WHO LIVES AT HOME (R)
THE ARTIST (PG-13)

PIEDMONT
SALMON FISHING IN THE YEMEN (PG-13)
FRIENDS WITH KIDS (R)
THE ARTIST (PG-13)

SHATTUCK
NOW OPEN The Screening Lounge
JIRO DREAMS OF SUSHI (PG)
PINA 3D (PG)
21 JUMP STREET (R)
DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG)
DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX 3D (PG)
CASA DE MI PADRE (R)
DELICACY (PG-13)
THE SECRET WORLD OF ARRIETTY (G)
THE DEEP BLUE SEA (R)
THE SALT OF LIFE (NR)
THE KID WITH A BIKE (PG-13)
Academy Award® Winner
JOIN OUR FILM CLUB AT
FILMCLUB.LANDMARKTHEATRES.COM

Rialto Cinemas
CERRITO
THE HUNGER GAMES
(1:10) 6:20 9:30 PG-13
The LORAX
(4:00) 7:00 9:15 PG
1pm Show Sat & Sun

ELMWOOD
College Ave at Ashby
FRIENDS WITH KIDS
THE IRON LADY
PARIAH
IN DARKNESS
RAMPART
National Theatre Live in HD
SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER

GRAND LAKE THEATRE
BEST EAST BAY THEATER

THE HUNGER GAMES (PG13)
ON TWO SCREENS!
FRI-SAT 12:30 3:45 7:00, 10:00
SUN-THUR 12:30, 3:45, 7:00 10:00
DAILY 11:00, 2:45, 6:00, 9:15

WRATH OF THE TITANS (PG13)
IN 2 PROJECTOR 3D
DAILY 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:45

MIRROR, MIRROR (PG)
DAILY 11:15 1:45, 4:30 7:45 9:35

NO COMMERCIALS
PARKING METER HOURS NOW END AT 6PM
Times for 3/30 – 4/5
Visit us at [illegible]

"FUNNY...IRESCAPABLE CHARM... COULDN'T BE MORE DELICIOUS!"
FROM THE DIRECTOR AND STAR OF
MID AUGUST LUNCH
THE SALT OF LIFE
www.thesaltoflifefilm.com
STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH

BAR 355 GETS FREE

The free-jazz movement flowers in an unlikely venue

By Rachel Swan

Drummer Sam Ospovat (left, with members of Anteater) hopes to start a regular session at the bar.

If you ask local jazz drummer Sam Ospovat why he chose Bar 355 as the newest outpost for free jazz in Oakland, he'll point to specific features in the venue's architecture. "It's the only place in the Bay Area that's perfectly set up for jazz music," Ospovat asserted, raising his voice to talk over the din of patrons chattering and glasses clinking on Sunday night at the bar in question. "They have a fucking stage," he said, gesturing back toward a raised platform at the bar's south end. "So then you can have the musicians over there. And over here —" he waved an arm haphazardly at the bar "the people who don't give a fuck."

Such divisions might be the only way to accommodate a scene that, despite its ardent following, has an extremely hard time finding favor in the general population. Jazz jams have never really thrived in the East Bay, even though the area harbors a musician population that might be commensurate (or exceed) the one in San Francisco — especially as the city's rent prices drive more artists eastward. By many measures the East Bay is a better place for such gatherings, since it's home to the famous experimental music program at Mills College, as well as a burgeoning warehouse scene. The big hindrances thus far are a lack of nightlife infrastructure and a lingering stereotype that jazz is for old people. From a bar owner's perspective, it's also for people who don't drink. But Ospovat and his cohorts might be able to change that.

At 10 p.m. the drummer was holding court over a crowd that could have easily been transplanted from any other bar in Oakland. Rock singer and sometime *Express* contributor Ryan Christopher Parks sat nursing a whiskey at the bar. A girl with long blond hair and a sleeve tattoo flirted gregariously with her date, who was slouched over in a pose of near-genuflection. Patrons glanced furtively at their reflections in the bar's vintage mirrors. Ospovat was wearing a gray V-neck T-shirt and jeans, his hair swept in the shape of a 1950s pompadour. Having just finished a set with his avant trio Anteater, he was about to facilitate a jam session that, he hoped, would devolve into free-flowing noise. He had all the zeal of a person organizing a communion ceremony.

Within a few minutes Ospovat had amassed enough people to start the music again. The makeshift five-person band featured Jon Arkin on drums, Eric Vogler on guitar, Kim Cass on bass, Theo Padouvas on trumpet, and Jacob Zimmerman on saxophone. They started off with the standard "Background Music," which paired a melody written by bebop pianist Lennie Tristano with the chord changes for "All of Me." Ospovat craned his neck toward the stage. As more people filed in with their instrument cases, the band launched into another relatively obscure standard, "Let's Cool One," by Thelonious Monk. The sleeve-tattoo girl managed to pull her practically comatose date onto the dance floor and they did an awkward two-step.

Ask Ospovat his reasons for starting an unsupervised jam session and he'll give you the same reasons as many of the older, grizzled free-jazz enthusiasts whose attempts to revive a "movement" never quite took off in the East Bay: that musicians get tired of just ploughing through chord changes, that John Coltrane would have banged his head against a wall had he spent his entire career playing "My Favorite Things." Saxophonist Ike Levin said as much when he tried to resuscitate the scene at 21 Grand arts space back in 2007 alongside two equally grizzled titans — trumpeter Eddie Gale and multi-reed instrumentalist Oluyemi Thomas. The three put forth a valiant effort but eventually had to reconcile with the fact that they'd all reached the autumn of middle age. So, too, had free jazz.

But now the opposite is true. Maybe it's the new influx of Mills grads requiring their own warehouse spaces, or the precipitous rise of groups like tUnE-yArDs and Mwahaha, which have strong ties to avant-garde music. Perhaps the scene just needed a younger apostle, and 33-year-old Ospovat — who is potty-mouthed, handsome, fashionably unkempt, and involved in no fewer than eight bands, fits the role perfectly. He reveres order and compositional structure as much as Levin but manages not to sound like an old codger. "I mean, the whole scene in the East Bay now is — everybody does free and plays tunes," he said, happily noting that the old delineations between straight-ahead musicians and squeaky-squawky free-jazz people are starting to dissolve. A recent West Oakland warehouse show placed experimental jazz bassist Trevor Dunn on the same bill as indie garage band Silian Rail. Once again, it's hip to be free.

Show Details

Sam Ospovat's Anteater plays at The Jazzschool (2087 Addison St., Berkeley) on Saturday, Apr. 7, 8 p.m. $10, $12. Jazzschool.com

At Bar 355 Ospovat and company gradually warmed the crowd up before launching into full-fledged sound-for-sound's sake. By the third tune, though, they were ready. An old tenor saxophonist named Jim Ryan took the stage wearing big sunglasses, alongside alto player Rent Romus and his wife, trumpeter CJ Borosque. Jordan Glenn sat at the drums. The musicians huddled conspiratorially, then started together on the downbeat, horns zigzagging between each other as though locked in gladiatorial combat. Arkin watched from afar and smiled. "I like how it's the old people who go up there and play crazy," he marveled. Vogler pulled a set of earplugs out of his pocket.

The fact that Bar 355 owners Travis Dutton and Patrick Lynch took a chance on Ospovat's free-jazz session provides some indication of the genre's viability. Usually the bar hosts indie music on Sundays, Dutton said, but it's a mellow-enough night to warrant trying something new. And he was easily swayed by Ospovat's elevator pitch. "He came into the bar a couple times and started talking it up," Dutton said, adding that Ospovat clinched the deal by presenting his session as *real jazz* with *real musicians* — an argument Dutton found adequately persuasive.

In fact, Bar 355 has tried jazz before, booking an old-timey band that only played music from the Twenties and Thirties. For a downtown venue that's oft characterized as "hipster," that was kind of an anomaly. And Dutton admits he got a kick out of having old musicians play for a young crowd. "One of the guys in the band was 85 years old," the bar owner said. "He wouldn't leave the stage between sets. He'd just sit there and eat a sandwich out of a bag."

Hopefully, this session will fare even better. Ospovat said last night was a test run, but he and Dutton were both pleased with the turnout. (The next free-jazz session will happen on April 22.) It stayed relatively packed throughout the night, as a seemingly indefatigable cast of musicians rotated onstage, alternating standards with spontaneous compositions. Dutton noted, gratefully, that they bucked the conventional wisdom about jazz crowds. These guys actually bought drinks. ●

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

VITUS

WED, MARCH 28
LADIES NIGHT WITH...
PROZACK TURNER

THU, MARCH 29
SYLVAN PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:
STAND UP COMEDY
(OPEN MIC AND FEATURES)
EVERY THURSDAY 7:30 TO 9:30

GEORGE LACSON PROJECT
AFROFUNK EXPERIENCE

FRI MARCH 30
SYLVAN PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:
RAPPIN' 4-TAY
MARVELLUS LUCAS, DAVID GBORIE,
LUKE LOCKFELD, CHRIS RIGGINS (HOST)

SAT MARCH 31
THE BITTER HONEYS
THE BANG

SUN APRIL 1
APRIL FOOLS COMEDY!
LEAVE IT TO THE PROFESSIONALS
ALISON STEVENSON
CHRIS GARCIA
DAVID GBORIE
CAITLIN GILL
MUSIC BY DJ REAL
HOST: CLAIRE O'KANE

Fiercely Independent Music
$1 Taco happy hour
Monday thru Wed 5 to 7
We have Pinball and Skeeball!

201 BROADWAY ST OAKLAND CA 94607
510-452 1620
MON - SAT 4PM - 1AM
WWW.VITUSOAKLAND.COM

The best in freeform
& alternative radio
Broadcasting live
from UC Berkeley
24 hours a day.

kalx

90.7 FM BERKELEY KALX.BERKELEY.EDU

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Like us
on
facebook

facebook.com/
eastbayexpress

333 Slim's
www.slims-sf.com

PICTURE ATLANTIC · STOMACHER
VIA COMA
[illegible]

FRI. & SAT. MAR. 30 & 31 · $25 ADV/$25 DOOR · DOORS 7 · SHOW 8
THE SAW DOCTORS
MISISIPI MIKE & THE MIDNIGHT GAMBLERS

MON. APR. 2 · $18 ADV/$18 DOOR · DOORS 7 · SHOW 7:30
PROTEST THE HERO
PERIPHERY
JEFF LOOMIS BAND · THE SAFETY FIRE

WED. APR. 4 · $22 ADV/$22 DOOR · DOORS 7 · SHOW 7:30
THE BLACK DAHLIA MURDER
NILE
SKELETONWITCH · HOUR OF PENANCE

THURS. APR. 5 · $21 ADV/$21 DOOR · DOORS 7 · SHOW 8
(ALSO PLAYING AT GAMH ON WED. 4/4)
CULTS
SPECTRALS
MRS. MAGICIAN

FRI. APR. 6 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
SWERVEDRIVER
BEAVER

SAT. APR. 7 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
CAROLINA CHOCOLATE DROPS
DAVID WAX MUSEUM

SUN. APR. 8 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
THE BLACK SEEDS
STRANGER

TUES. APR. 10 · $29 (GA) $40 (VIP) · DOORS 7 · SHOW 8
STEREOPONY

GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC HALL
www.musichallsf.com

THURS. MAR. 29 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 8:30
LIVING CUP & PERFORMER MAGAZINE PRESENT
THE FEROCIOUS FEW
ZODIAC DEATH VALLEY
R. HAMILTON

FRI. MAR. 30 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
CHUCK PROPHET & THE MISSION EXPRESS
ROY LONEY & THE PHANTOM MOVERS

TUES. APR. 3 · DOORS 7 · SHOW 8
"YOU + ME TOUR 2012 PHASE 3"
THE POLYPHONIC SPREE
NEW FUMES
SWEET LIE MEADOW

WED. APR. 4 · $21 ADV/$21 DOOR · DOORS 7 · SHOW 8
(ALSO PLAYING AT SLIM'S ON THURS. 4/5)
CULTS
SPECTRALS
MRS. MAGICIAN

THURS., FRI. & SAT. APR. 5, 6 & 7 · AN EVENING WITH
DARK STAR ORCHESTRA
CONTINUING THE GRATEFUL DEAD EXPERIENCE

WED. APR. 11 · TRAIN · SOLD OUT! THANK YOU!

THURS. APR. 12 · $21 ADV/$21 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
MELVINS
UNSANE

FRI. APR. 13 · $17 ADV/$17 · DOORS 8 · SHOW 9
BROKEDOWN IN BAKERSFIELD
FEATURING MICKY & TIM BLUHM, LEBO, SCOTT LAW, STEVE ADAMS & DAVE GLEASON
PAULA FRAZER
HE'S MY BROTHER SHE'S MY COUSIN

Gibson

PORTRAIT: NICK ZAMMUTO

After the dissolution of his longtime band The Books, the veteran musician goes it alone

By Will Butler

Nick Zammuto lives on a mountain in Vermont with his adorable young family in a house he built with his own two hands. Rock n roll.

When he answered my phone call on a Monday morning, he immediately announced "I'm screen printing! Can I put you on speakerphone so my ink doesn't dry out?" He sounded happy to talk but determined not to let our interview derail his art project.

He was making special LP covers to support his upcoming tour opening for Explosions in the Sky. "I figured, instead of doing a Kickstarter-type thing, I'd just do this. For the people who are willing to buy an LP for $30, at least they get something we made with our own hands." The five hundred special-edition record sleeves will help pay for his first national tour under his own name.

Zammuto and labelmates Explosions in the Sky have known of each other's work for years, but until recently Zammuto had gone under another moniker: as one half of experimental duo The Books. The duo members carved out a reputation as electro-orchestral loop-medium fiends, keeping up their (meager) finances by touring. After a nearly ten year run, The Books finally crumbled late last year, with the musicians parting ways after releasing 2010's triumphant but perhaps should-have-seen-it-coming tinged album *The Way Out*. In some ways, Zammuto is now starting back at square one; in others, he's way ahead of where he began. Luckily, he likes screen printing.

"I went to school for the visual arts before I got into music at all, so it's actually a nice return — usually after the boys are in bed my wife and I like to stay up and screen print anyway. So we love to do it, and people respond to it. If they know it's coming from us rather than some machine, then the actual physical object is worth more to them." Our conversation is colored by the background chatter of his children, an undeniably integral part of his musical life (he samples their voices) as well as his home life. Indeed, Zammuto and his wife stumbled into a lifestyle that's luminously sustainable for musicians.

Show Details

Zammuto plays at Palace of Fine Arts (3301 Lyon St., San Francisco) Monday & Tuesday, Apr. 16-17, 8 p.m. $39.50. PalaceofFineArts.org

One of the keys was their move to Vermont, which put his entire family's health-care costs at virtually nothing. "Vermont is basically Canada — it's amazing here. It doesn't matter how much I make, [my kids] are just covered, no questions asked, until they're eighteen. And for my wife and myself, if I make below a certain amount a year, I think we're paying like $10 a month for health insurance. We just lucked out. It's not why we moved across the border, but I don't know how we could have ever made it work in Massachusetts.

Zammuto's house in Vermont.

"We try to live as self sufficiently as possible," Zammuto said of his humble sixteen-acre estate. "We grow most of our food up here, and there's a lot of blueberries around and stuff."

And with each new child, they've added onto their house as needed. An old shed became Zammuto's personal studio. "It's pretty ironic," he laughed. "It's not lost on me that living up on the top of a mountain and making electronic music in an old tractor garage is kind of an odd thing to do. Winters are long, but it feels awesome to be up here. And it's actually the most productive place I've ever been, musically."

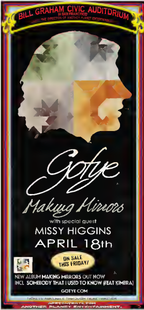
As his own CEO rather than a partner in The Books, Zammuto made quick moves to get back on the road, where the real money is. Though he admits he'll lose nearly $15,000 this first tour (a loss which his label Temporary Residence graciously subsidized), he's keeping it efficient. That means limiting days off. "It's that idle time on the road that always leads to more alcohol and mischief of one kind or another."

Zammuto also worked out a profit-sharing deal so that members of his band have a vested interest in the tour. "Basically I pay them either a flat rate or a percentage of the ticket sales, whichever's higher. It's a good way to start because the flat rate is affordable, and when [ticket sales] are good, it's really good for the band, like much better than their standard pay."

In his Vermont hideaway, Zammuto also puts his technical skills to work mastering other artists' albums on the side, which he's found is coincidentally a great way to connect with his fans. "I just do it so I can buy gear here and there," he admonished. "I actually just mastered a record from this band called Twigs and Yarn, and man, it really blew me away. It's a lot of fun. Mastering is a whole different thing from making a record. It's a whole different set of gears, and you learn lots of new things that you want to try out on your own stuff." For the record, he's not expensive, either.

◆

Will.Butler@EastBayExpress.com



BILL GRAHAM CIVIC AUDITDRIUM
IN SAN FRANCISCO
THE DIRECTION OF ANOTHER PLANET ENTERTAINM

Gotye

Making Mirrors

with special guest

MISSY HIGGINS

APRIL 18th

ON SALE
THIS FRIDAY!

NEW ALBUM MAKING MIRRORS OUT NOW
INCL. SOMEBODY THAT I USED TO KNOW (FEAT KIMBRA)

GOTYE.COM

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH TICKETMASTER
APECONCERTS.COM
ANOTHER PLANET ENTERTAINMENT

ANOTHER PLANET ENTERTAINMENT

SUMMER 2012
Lucky CONCERT SERIES
THE GREEK THEATRE
AT BERKELEY
AT THE GREEK

DEAD CAN DANCE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12th

ON SALE
THIS SUNDAY!

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS
ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM OR APECONCERTS.COM

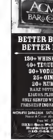
KARAOKE
M W TH
7-10:00

LIVE
JAZZ
Sundays
8:00-11:00

NICK'S
LOUNGE

5218 Adeline Street, Berkeley
near the Ashby BART Station
510.652.NICK
www.nickslounge.com
SUN-THU 4 PM-1:00 FRI-SAT 4:00-2:00

The Trappist
Belgian & Specialty Beer
2 YEARS & COUNTING!
BEST BEER BAR
IN CALIFORNIA
460 8th Street Oakland • 510.238.8900
www.thetrappist.com
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 11AM WEEKDAYS • 2PM WEEKENDS



ACME
BAR & COMPANY
BETTER BOOZE
BETTER BAR
130+ WHISKEYS
40+ TEQUILAS
30+ VODKAS
25+ GINS
20+ RUMS
RARE BOTTLES
LIQUOR FLIGHTS
ONLY SERVED WITH THE
FRESHEST INGREDIENTS
MON-FRI 3PM-2AM SAT-SUN 12PM-2AM
Never A Cover, Always 21+
Free Wi-Fi
2115 San Pablo Ave.
Berkeley 94702
510.644.2226

CD REVIEWS

RADIO HEADS

Nostalgic angst, indie slow jams and jazz-pop pastiche

Conduits

Conduits

Are you feeling nostalgic for the hazy angst-laden aspects of late-Eighties and Nineties indie rock? Here's just the thing: Omaha band Conduits, which evolved from Son Ambulance, Cursive, and Eagle Seagull among others, will fill the raging hole in your soul. Without being slavish imitators, Conduits draw influences from Lush, My Bloody Valentine, Chapterhouse, and to a lesser extent Spiritualized to create a vast fuzzy lush ambience. The band's self-titled debut is loaded with stark, solitary-sounding drum beats, swirling keys, ringing guitars, and breathy, soothing, somewhat ethereal female vocals.

At its best, Conduits stands with the best of its shoegazer/noise pop antecedents. With its rippling bass lines, storming drums, dynamic-with-descending-progression chorus, and searing guitar motif, "The Wonder" is what Cocteau Twins might've sounded like had they injected an ounce of actually rocking out into their sonic éclat. "Blood" adds some Led Zeppelin-style dynamics to the formula (this could almost be an outtake from *Houses of the Holy*) with its Hammer of the Gods-esque drumming and throbbing bass. "Limbs and Leaves" mixes Spacemen 3-like drone with a languid, lounge-at-universe's-end vibe.

Singer Jenna Morrison has a willowy, airy, and melodious voice with just the right balance of plaintive regret, dispirited passion, and aloofness. The instrumentalists play with drive and economy. The only drawback is that these songs could be a tad more distinctive. Like many of their forebears, this band privileges mood and atmosphere over actual melodies. Still, for lovers of violet miasma, it's a nice debut. (Team Love)

— *Mark Keresman*

La Sera

Sees the Light

Hardly Art describes its newest La Sera release as "peppy break-up pop with defiance and bitter sweetness." If you're lucky enough to be one of those people who has peppy break-ups, maybe that's a helpful description, but it's one that initially confuses the situation of Katy Goodman's new album. These days it's harder than you might think to pin down a straightforward rock album descriptively and even harder to pull it off creatively, from a musician's perspective.

But Goodman hits a nice sweet spot with *Sees the Light*. It's the second album from the Brooklyn-based Vivian Girls alumnus, and though she's stepping out again at the same moment as fellow band member Frankie Rose, Goodman draws her inspiration from a different era for her solo effort. Whereas Rose moved toward synth-laden Eighties melancholy, La Sera sounds a lot more like Vivian Girls — hard-driving guitars, catchy refrains, and Sixties rock 'n' roll references. *Sees the Light* will appeal to fans of several other contemporary acts, among them Grizzly Bear, St. Vincent, and The Pains of Being Pure at Heart.

The standout songs are all downtempo and folky, and might be properly characterized as "slow jams." "It's Over Now" and "Love That's Gone" are sweet, anthemic, and doubtless mixtape fodder. And when she goes garage, Goodman still succeeds heartily. Tunes like "Please Be My Third Eye" and "Break My Heart" prove that she doesn't need the rest of the Vivian Girls to sweep you away with gritty guitar jaunts. Come to think of it, it's kind of like peppy break-up pop. (Hardly Art)

— *Will Butler*

Esperanza Spalding

Radio Music Society

Performing at Oakland Yoshi's to promote her 2008 self-titled album, bassist Esperanza Spalding joked, with a hint of false modesty, about how difficult it is for jazz musicians to ever see paper returns for their work. As a solution, Spalding and her band had written a tune that the then-24-year-old star described as "their attempt at a pop song." Like all of her compositions, it sparkled.

In truth, it's almost criminally self-effacing for Spalding to characterize herself as antithetical to pop, or incapable of appealing to mainstream audiences. If anything, she's proved that truly talented jazz musicians can cross over without sacrificing dignity or musical depth — she won the 2011 Grammy for "Best New Artist," after all. Her new album, which is both a continuation of and supplement to 2010's *Chamber Music Society*, is gorgeously and sumptuously orchestrated. And it offers enough surface pleasures for any listener with a pop music palette. Opening tune "Radio Song" rides on a funk backbeat and Seventies horn fills. *This song will keep you groovin'*, Spalding sings, bending notes in the manner of a soul singer.

In many ways, though, the term "pop" still rings facile. Spalding obviously enjoys playing with signifiers of popular music — rubber-band bass grooves, urbane-sounding sus chords, answering-machine samples — but she does so in the service of a larger artistic project. Her cover of Stevie Wonder's "I Can't Help It," which features nimble adornments from post-bop saxophonist Joe Lovano, is just one example of how much a pop tune can evolve in the hands of a master. Moreover, Spalding's lyrics are far more substantive than most pop libretti, since she usually hews to political and social themes. Her relationship songs — like the lounge-blues ballad "Hold on Me," are veritable love poems. (Heads Up)

— *Rachel Swan*

LOCAL LICKS

BY RACHEL SWAN

Mark Abel

The Dream Gallery

"Marriage of classical and rock" isn't necessarily the best way to sell yourself. But this album, packed with elaborate, painterly compositions and lustrous opera vocals, is definitely a tour de force. The lyrics proffer detailed, wistful memories associated with various California cities. *We love the [illegible] down on [illegible].* (Delos Productions)

Howell Devine

Delta Grooves

Rough, twangy guitar and fleshy washboard create the scaffolding for this country band. The melodies are a little barren, but the rhythm section manages to create a deep-pocket groove on every song — particularly when vocalist Howell Devine whips out his harmonica. Howell's vocals are the band's weakest link, but the instrumentals are great. (Sparta Records)

At Speisekammer (2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda) on Friday, Mar. 30, 8:30 p.m., free.

Bang Data

La Sopa

Bang Data is proving that artful combinations of hip-hop and Latin music are still viable, danceable, and widely appealing. About 80 percent of the lyrics on the group's new album are in Spanish, and most of the rhythms are poached from merengue, cumbia, and son. Deuce Eclipse is a nimble rapper. (self-released)

At Elbo Room (647 Valencia St., San Francisco) on Friday, Mar. 30, 10 p.m., $10.

Bayonics

Mission Statement

For a nine-person funk band, Bayonics manages to sound remarkably clean. The horn parts are so crisp they could almost be sampled; the rubber-band bass lines and snappy drum grooves accurately replicate Seventies funk; the band's opening track, "Wheels Keep Turning," filches its vamp from Curtis Mayfield's "Diamond in the Back." And the band veers from straight-ahead funk to Latin, since "Wheels" is followed by a conga-driven salsa track, "Segue." (self-released)

At 330 Ritch (330 Ritch St., San Francisco) on Saturday, Mar. 31, 10 p.m.

Bay Area bands: show us what you've got. Send CDs to Local Licks c/o the *East Bay Express*.

Sexy Sundays
FIRST Sunday OF EVERY MONTH
$250
EROTIC POETRY CONTEST
TO COMPETE. FOR MORE INFO
CONTACT STRETCH 510-238-3744
New Karibbean City
1600 WEBSTER ST OAKLAND

Rusted Root
April 6
JOHN ASCUAGA'S
Nugget
BOOK ROOMS NOW!
Reno, Nevada
janugget.com • 800-648-1177

$15 DOOR
LIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO
$13 ONLINE
Bay Area Derby Girls
PRESENT
MARCH BADNESS
SF ShEvil DEAD VS. Berkeley RESISTANCE
SATURDAY!
3.31
FORT MASON ////////
HERBST PAVILION
6 DOOR
7:30 BOUT
bayareaderbygirls.com

ALAMEDA'S ORIGINAL
NAUGHTY LAVA LOUNGE

LOST
WEEKEND
LOUNGE
2320 SANTA CLARA AVE @ PARK ST
ALAMEDA 510 523 4700

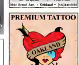
Jupiter
2181 Shattuck [illegible] 843 8277
www.jupiterbeer.com [illegible] no cover

THU 3/29 **SELECTOR: DJ FFLOOD**
8 pm With regular gigs all over Oakland DJ fflood (a 1st generation Jamaican born in New York City and living in Oakland) is a dj, remixer, producer, activist and writer. As a dj he has been musically transporting crowds with his intuitive, driving, and eclectic style for over 20 years now.
myspace.com/fflood

FRI 3/30 **CVDUB**
8 pm Fearless leader and trumpetist/composer Clyde the Style brings us an update on some of the groundwork laid by Augustus Pablo, Ernest Ranglin and classic Studio One recordings from the 60s and 70s. The new version Clyde Vernon Dub, pushes boundaries and splits categories. Is it jazz? Yes. Is it Reggae? Yes. Is it post-Cannonball and Eddie Harris? Yes it is. Is it a Bitches Brew? Yup. All combined its Dub Jazz, a new genre.
reverbnation.com/cvdub

SAT 3/31 **POLYGLOT QUARTET**
8 pm Polyglot Quartet draws from funk, jazz, avant garde, and Americana in equal measure. Moving between chin-worthy languid grooves and booty-worthy rumpus, they lay down a simultaneously thoughtful and straight up greasy sound that would be equally comfortable meeting your mother or meeting your maker.
polyglotquartet.com

OAKLAND'S ONLY HISTORIC
PIANO BAR
Rod Dibble Tickles the Ivories
Tues-Sats 9pm-Closing
Guitarist Paul Mclear
Tues-Weds & Every Other Friday 6:30-8:30pm
EVEN PEOPLE HAVE FUN IN
"THE ALLEY"
OPEN
[illegible]
Dinner Served
[illegible]
3325 Grand Ave. • Oakland • (510)444-8505


PREMIUM TATTOO

4130 BROADWAY (510) 922-8901
premiumtattoooakland.blogspot.com

OAKLAND
METRO
OPERAHOUSE
MARCH 28TH
WOMP
ELECTRIC DANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY
MARCH 29TH
ALL SHALL PERISH
MARCH 30TH
GREAT INTEGRATION
A CHAMBER HIP-HOP OPERA
MARCH 31ST
SKUNKFEST
OAKLAND SKA PUNK FESTIVAL
APRIL 3RD
LA DISPUTE
BALANCE AND COMPOSURE / ALL GET OUT
APRIL 5TH
TOURETTES SANS REGRETS
[illegible] BURLESQUE SHOWCASE
APRIL 6TH
HOODSLAM
APRIL 9TH
BLOOD ON THE DANCE FLOOR
[illegible]
JUNE 2ND
SUICIDAL TENDENCIES
OAKLANDMETRO.ORG

CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 29

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Dan Paxton Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $20.50, $28.50

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Radio Art an improvised music experience featuring members of [illegible], Starry Plough, 9 p.m. $8-$12

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Quartet late night happy hour Yoshi's Oakland, 9:30 p.m. free
Rod Dibble dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 p.m. free
Skip Henderson and [illegible] Quest's Lighthouse, 8 p.m. free
Stone and Forest Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m. $24, $10

Rock & Pop

All Hero Party featuring Concert, Oakland Metro Operahouse, 7 p.m., $10
Dave Hooley piano covers of classics, oldies, jazz & pop, Peter's Restaurant, 9 p.m. free
El [illegible] plays Happy Hour [illegible] Cisco Volante, 5 p.m. free
Emanate with Coast Jumper, Surrounded, and Please Do Not Fight, Stork Club, 8 p.m. $8
The Spacesuits Iron's Irish Sports Bar, 10 p.m. free
Will [illegible] with special guest [illegible], The Uptown, 7 p.m. $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

George Bechan Project with Afrofunk Experience, Yoshi's, 8 p.m. $8

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] & the Chinyakare Ensemble [illegible], 8 p.m. $10
Sol Hero with Counter Culture, Ashkenaz, 8 p.m. $7 $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

John [illegible] Boots & Shoes 8 & 10 p.m. $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Ariel Eisenstein Trio live jazz, Ana Mandara, 7:30-11 p.m. free
Eddie Gardenas Duo with guests, Yoshi's San Francisco, 6-9 p.m., free
George Michalski Scott Howard, 6:30 p.m.
The Marthell Brothers Le Colonial, 7-11 p.m. free
Georgie James San Francisco-based duo performs jazz and blues, Top of the Mark, 8:30-11:30 p.m. $10
The W-Beez with The Revelators, Boom Boom Room, 9:45 p.m. $8

Rock & Pop

Broken Cities with Groundskeeper and Pony Fight, Brainwash, 8 p.m., $7
Flight Facilities featuring Jesse Hogan plus Popscene DJs, Mezzanine, 10 p.m. $12 $16
Fun. with Avalanche City, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m. $15
[illegible] with [illegible], El Rio, 5 p.m. $5
The Grannies with [illegible], and [illegible], Thee Parkside, 4 p.m. $8
Great Circle [illegible] with The Alf's, [illegible] and the Vaudevillains, and featuring [illegible], 8:30 p.m., $6
Dave Dowden with Night Games, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m.
Penelope Houston CD release with Pianosaurus and Coletta Sue Kay, Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m. $12
[illegible] with [illegible], Slim's, 8 p.m., $13
[illegible] with [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m., $16, $18
Valerie Orth Amnesia, 9 p.m. $7 $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Tyga with YG and Lil Twist, The Warfield, 8 p.m., $25

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Mocha, 8:30 p.m. free
Orchestra Thursday traditional music & dancing with [illegible] & Stephanie [illegible], 8 p.m. $12

FRIDAY 30

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country [illegible] Roots Cafe Van Kleef, 9 p.m. $5

Classical & Opera

Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Performs Works by Copland, [illegible] Higdon, and Prokofiev with conductor [illegible] and percussionist Colin Currie, Zellerbach Hall, 8 p.m. $30

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] 57th Street Gallery, 8:30 p.m. $10
First Friday [illegible] Jazz & Roots Camp Final Concert, Jazzschool, 8 p.m. $12
[illegible] featuring Big Hero with [illegible], Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $20.50, $22.50
[illegible] Piedmont Piano Company, 8 p.m. $15
Rod Dibble dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 p.m. free
SPIAZZ Collective the jazz supergroup plays the music of [illegible], Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m. $22-$28
Vagabond Opera with Rodeo Fantastique and The Sasha & Shiri Show, Ashkenaz, 8:30 p.m. $12 $15
Vagabond Opera with Rodeo Fantastique and The Sasha & Shiri Show, Ashkenaz, 8:30 p.m. $12 $15

Rock & Pop

Beats Antique with Phantom and The Love Family Players, Fox Theater, 8 p.m. $25
Brothers [illegible] with special guest [illegible], Cisco Volante, 9 p.m. free
[illegible] with 2nd Class [illegible], and War of Aggression, 924 Gilman, 7 p.m. $8
Dave Hooley piano covers of classics, oldies, jazz, & pop, Peter's Restaurant, 9 p.m. free
Lord Dying with Pigs, Wild Hunt, and [illegible], Eli's Mile High Club, 7 p.m. $7
Slow Motion Cowboys (members of [illegible]) with [illegible] and [illegible], Starry Plough, 9:30 p.m. $5
[illegible] VII with Their Version of Abigail Rutledge, Spider [illegible] and My Parade, Stork Club, 9 p.m. $5

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Great Integration: A Chamber Hip-Hop Opera featuring Rico Pabón and [illegible], Oakland Metro Operahouse, 8 p.m. $5-$30
Reggie [illegible] with [illegible], and Chris Higgins, [illegible], 9 p.m. $7

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 8 p.m. $12 $15

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Chuck Prophet & The Mission Express with Roy Loney & The Phantom Movers, Great American Music Hall, 9 p.m. $18
[illegible] Zingari Ristorante, 8 p.m.-midnight free
The Saw Doctors with [illegible] & The Midnight Gamblers, Slim's, 8 p.m. $25
Tia Carroll Biscuits & Blues, 8 & 10 p.m. $20

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Trio live jazz, Ana Mandara, 7:30-11:30 p.m. free
[illegible] Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark, 9 p.m. $15
Eddie Gardenas Duo with guests, Yoshi's San Francisco, 6-9 p.m. free
George Michalski Scott Howard, 6:30 p.m.

Rock & Pop

[illegible] with Mrs. Magician and Spider [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m. $10, $12
[illegible] CD release with [illegible] & Smith and [illegible] & Chuck, [illegible], 9 p.m. $8 $10
[illegible] with [illegible] and Space Vacation, Thee Parkside, 9 p.m., $10
[illegible] with Maus Haus and [illegible] Ghost, Cafe du Nord, 9:30 p.m. $10
Pins of Light CD release with [illegible] City, Elephant Rifle, and Chris Thayer, Hemlock Tavern, 9:30 p.m. $7

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] with [illegible], 103 Harriet, 9 p.m. $15 $20
[illegible] with Soul Rebels Brass Band and [illegible], The Fillmore, 9 p.m., $25
[illegible] after-party [illegible], 11:55 p.m. $20
[illegible] with Hyro Da Hero, The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m. $20
[illegible] with The California Honeydrops and [illegible], The Independent, 9 p.m. $25

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] with Brett Hunter, [illegible], 9 p.m. $12
Lagos Roots Afrobeat Ashkenaz Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m. $7 $10

SATURDAY 31

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country Family Bonanza happy hour, Starry Plough, 7 p.m. free
The Waybacks Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $24.50, $28.50

Classical & Opera

[illegible] Concertos for Oboe & Violin in C Minor, for Two Violins in D Minor, and for [illegible] Harpsichords in C Major, First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 8 p.m. $10-$50

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Jazz & Joy Taste of Joy, 5:30 p.m. free
[illegible] 57th Street Gallery, 8:30 p.m. $10
Polyglot Quartet Jupiter, 8 p.m. free
Rod Dibble dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 p.m. free
SPIAZZ Orchestra jazz supergroup plays the music of [illegible], Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m. $25-$28

Kids

The REGENCY BALLROOM

IN BENEFIT OF SWEET RELIEF
DEATH TO ALL 2012
CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MUSIC OF CHUCK SCHULDINER
FEAT 7 LEGENDARY MEMBERS OF THE BAND DEATH
JUNE 22 • ON SALE FRIDAY AT 10AM

GWAR
MUNICIPAL WASTE • GHOUL • LEGACY OF DISORDER
APRIL 6

SLAUGHTERHOUSE
CROOKED I • JOE BUDDEN • JOELL ORTIZ • ROYCE DA 5'9
APRIL 7

MAZZY STAR
THE ENTRANCE BAND • ALINA HARDIN
APRIL 11

WANDA JACKSON
SALLIE FORD AND THE SOUND OUTSIDE
APRIL 17

ESCAPE THE FATE • ATTACK ATTACK!
THE WORD ALIVE • SECRETS • [illegible]
APRIL 19

ZEDS DEAD
ARAABMUZIK • [illegible]
APRIL 20

DJ SHADOW
APRIL 23

KITTIE
BLACKGUARD • THE AGONIST • BONDED BY BLOOD
APRIL 26

OVERKILL
GOD FORBID • [illegible] • DIAMOND PLATE
MAY 2

CURRENSY
STYLES P • THE JETS • SMOKE DZA • [illegible]
CORNER BOY P • TRADEMARK • YOUNG RODDY
MAY 4

1300 VAN NESS at SUTTER • THEREGENCYBALLROOM.COM

THE WARFIELD

MADNESS
DJ HAPPY DUNCAN
APRIL 19

THE NAKED AND FAMOUS
VACATIONER • NOW, NOW
APRIL 21

RUSKO
SIGMA
APRIL 24

CYPRESS HILL
APRIL 27

JIM GAFFIGAN
APRIL 28 & 29
3RD SHOW ADDED!

THEWARFIELDTHEATRE.COM

GOLDENVOICE.COM

Get tickets at axs.com Your new ticket to entertainment.

THE FOX THEATER
OAKLAND
1807 TELEGRAPH AVENUE LOCATED A HALF BLOCK FROM THE 19TH STREET BART STATION

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS, ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM OR APECONCERTS.COM
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANOTHER PLANET ENTERTAINMENT

Los Amigitos de La Peña Saturday morning children's show with live music. La Peña Cultural Center, 10:30 a.m. $6

Rock & Pop

Bruce Sampson Cafe Van Kleef, 9 p.m., $5
Ball Ball & Blues Harmony The Rookie, 8 p.m. $10.50
Stain Stain Eli's Mile High Club, 7 p.m. $7
Steve Hurley piano renditions of Seventies oldies and 8 pop, Peter's Restaurant 8 p.m. free
Talent 9 with Brainsgrind, Kick Starter, Protest Authority, Night Shades, and Strain Zero. 924 Gilman, 7 p.m. $7
The Lowlands with Benefit Meadows and Ball, Christine Hudson, Starry Plough 9:30 p.m. $7-$10
Blues & Emily with Richards Kaye and Tone Stoners, Stork Club, 9 p.m. $5
Ms. Contact & The Blues piano at Stove Low, 6 p.m. free
The Spyrations with The Bitter Honeys and The Bang, Vital, 9 p.m. $8
Spyrations featuring Groovy, Project, Stale Flash & The Villains, Day Lubeldorf Bin Had, The Spyrations Poke And Polly, and Stepto, Gumpert Moon Uptownhouse 8:30 p.m. $10
The Stripsteers with The Dirty Hand Family Band and Pleasure Kills, The Uptown 9 p.m. $12

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

DJ Ball D Bossey's Lounge, 8 p.m. free
Soulful Saturdays presented by LB Music, Disco Volante, 8 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Rumba Celebration La Peña Cultural Center, 8 p.m. $15-$20
Rumba Hop Jazzschool, 9:30 p.m. $12-$10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Carl Brother & The Blues Ambassadors Biscuits & Blues, 8 & 10 p.m. $22
Emerald Knot Hemlock Saloon, 9-11 p.m. free
Marinaio di Bordo Italian folk Blues with Shen Mignona, Caffe Trieste, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. free
The Bob Cuminet with Midnight Mike & The Midnight Gamblers, Slim's, 8 p.m. $15

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

and Meadows Trio live jazz, Hop Meadows, 8-11:30 p.m. free
Eddie Pasternak Duo with guests, Patch's San Francisco, 6-9 p.m. free
George Michalski Scott Howard, 6:30 p.m.
Soulful Moon Style with Extra Action Marching Band and The California Honeydrops, Savoyhouse, 9 p.m. $23

Rock & Pop

Brother Josephine and Old Love Rumba Savoyhouse Jazzschool, with The Bourbon Whips, Hotel Utah, 9 p.m. $10
Brother Contact with The Brown Amy and 91 Camels, KevyAnne Forevermore and Glamorous, DJ Rapid Fire, DJ Dunnyople and Davib Rebirth Tang, 9 p.m., $10-$12
Drawn of Disability All Star electric tribute to Bob Dylan, Davib & Minstar Music Hall, 9 p.m. $13-$20
Glitter Rumba with Creepers and Havoik, Bootlock Lounge, 9:30 p.m., $3
Kathleen Contact with Brother Georges, The Independent, 9 p.m. $20
Skullaloog with Street Esquires, Moon Pigs, and Apogee Sound Club, The Jazzschool, 4 p.m. $8
Strange Vice with Mologoolah and City Tribe, Cafe du Nord, 9:30 p.m. $10-$13
Turbo Rising with Edge Play, Thee Parkside, 3 p.m. free
Young Pizzles with Forty Nights, Cold Showers, Cool Angels, and Meadows, Rumba of the Hill, 9 p.m. $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Boot Camp Clik Mighty, 9 p.m. $25-$30
DPOS featuring D-Nice, DJ Electric and DJ Johnny Venom, with MFB (feat. Rumba Tah), 331 and Mr. Phillips, Rumba for Lowkeezy, Thee Poppee, 8 p.m. $10
Concert with Soul Rebels Brass Band and Corey Henry, The Fillmore, 8 p.m. $60
Galactic after-party Brass Brass Palace, 11:55 p.m. $20
La Brass plus guests, Brass Brass Brass, 8:30 p.m. $18

SUNDAY 1

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Americana Unplugged Rupbet, 5 p.m., free
Blues Berkeley with Common Rebellion, Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $20.50-$22.50
Jimmy's All-Star Super Sessions Jimmy hosts a different blues theme every week, Peter's Restaurant, 5 p.m. free
Sunday Morning Blues with Rev. Robin, Caffe Mediterraneum, 10 a.m., free

Classical & Opera

Palm Sunday Concert Faure Requiem, Poulenc. St. John's Episcopal Church, 4 p.m. $20-$25
Rumba Jonathan Mies Meadows Works by Beethoven, Janácek, and Ludwig Herbst Hall, 3 p.m. $47

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Ray Goldberg, Tallon Johnston, & Jeff Rumba Trio Jazzschool, 4:30 p.m. $1-$12
I'll Contact jazz-inspired piano improvisations, Kappie Sassy Café, 12:30 p.m. free
Ellen Palast Piedmont Piano Company, 4 p.m. $15
Jazz and R&B Night Forsey's Lounge, 6-10 p.m., free
Jim Etertham and Quartet classic & contemporary jazz, Coffee Mill, 3-6 p.m. free
John Schott Brasa Café, 6 p.m. free
Lanyl Brother Cafe Van Kleef, 9 p.m.
The Randy Moore Trio Nick's Lounge, 6:30-10 p.m. free
SFJAZZ Collective jazz supergroup plays the music of Stevie Wonder, Yoshi's Oakland, 5 & 8 p.m. $22-$28
Meadows Rumba Trio Monet Restaurant & Bar, 6:30-9 p.m. free

Kids

Soggy Sundays kids' series, Ashkenaz, 3 p.m. $4-$6

Rock & Pop

GoodWorks Ashkenaz, 1 p.m. $6
Bob Weir & Bruce Hornsby Fox Theater, 8 p.m. $48.50

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Brother Ray Contact La Peña Cultural Center, 8 p.m. $10

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Domingo de Rumba Afro-Cuban rumba percussion & dance party, Café Valparaiso, 3:30-6:30 p.m. free
Subatla Satiqueso's Daily Brass Nights Morning Meadows from Subatla Satiqueso Brothe of Dance, Club Contact's, 8 p.m. $7

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Songwriter Sundays rotating artists perform in the lounge, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m.-midnight, $6
Terry Dunnellan Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m., free

Student discounts of 50% off are back!
Check yoshis.com/discounts
for available shows!

Yoshi's
jazz club and JAPANESE RESTAURANT
yoshis.com

SAN FRANCISCO

YOSHI'S LOCAL TALENT SERIES
FREE Live Music in The Lounge! Every Night 9:30-10pm
Weekly Jazz Jam Wed 9:30-11pm

Wed Thurs March 28-29
JON B.

Thurs, March 29 10:30pm
ALICE RUSSELL & THE PARK

Fri, March 30
ATLANTA RHYTHM SECTION

Sat-Sun March 31-April 1
PATRICE RUSHEN & FRIENDS

Mon April 2
AMENDOLA vs. BLADES + THE SCOTT AMENDOLA QUARTET

Wed, April 4
DAVID K. MATTHEWS' RAY CHARLES PROJECT
feat. TONY LINDSAY, CHRIS CAIN & GLENN WALTERS

Thurs, April 5 - from America's Got Talent
POPLYFE

Fri-Sun, April 6-8
McCOY TYNER TRIO
w/ special guest GARY BARTZ

Mon-Tues, April 9-10
DAVID CALZADO y su CHARANGA HABANERA

Wed, April 11 8pm
TED NASR

Wed April 11 10:30pm
BAND OF BROTHERZ

oakland

Wed, Mar 28
SOUL CAFÉ WEST

Thurs, Mar 29 Guitar Player presents
STRUNZ & FARAH

Fri-Sun, Mar 30-April 1
SFJAZZ COLLECTIVE
THE MUSIC OF STEVIE WONDER

Tues, April 3
RITA LACKEY & FRIENDS

Wed, April 4
BRASS MENAŽERI

Thurs-Sun, April 5-8
HIROMI TRIO PROJECT

Tues, April 10
KYLE EASTWOOD

Wed, April 11
LUTHER VANDROSS BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE
feat. RAY McCOY

Thurs, April 12
QUIJEREMA
w/ ALEX DeGRASSI

Fri-Sun, April 13-15
THE BAD PLUS

Mon April 16
ROSCOE MITCHELL

Tues April 17
MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY

VIP Membership Club for Yoshi's Oakland + SF • Details at www.yoshis.com/vip

Get Tickets at YOSHIS.COM / the venue box office / 415-655-5600 / 510-238-9200

Ashkenaz
Music & Dance Community Center

WED 3/28 8:00 pm $10
GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT
STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL
8 pm Breakfast to "Dead to the World"

THU 3/29 9:00 pm $10 $7 Members
REGGAE
SOL SEED + COUNTER CULTURE

FRI 3/30 8:30 pm $15 $12 advance
BOHEMIAN CABARET
VAGABOND OPERA
"relentless charisma, boundless energy, impeccable musicianship and more than a little naughty and exotic" - Wash Post
EL RADIO FANTASTIQUE
THE SANBA & SHIRI SHOW

SAT 3/31 9:30 pm $13 $10 Members
AFRICAN FROM THE CONGO
SAMBA NGO
Fiery Soukous and afro-funk dance music

THU 4/5 8:30 pm $10
GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT
STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL

FRI 4/6 8:30 pm $12-$15
STOMP THE STUMPS
GARY GATES BAND, FUNKY NIXONS, CRYIN' SHAME
Benefit for Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters and Earth First!

SAT 4/7 9:30 pm $15 $12 advance
ZIMBABWEAN
CHINYAKARE ENSEMBLE
with special guest MUDEKWA CHINGOBZA

SUN 4/8 8:30 pm $6
OPEN MIC
SONGWRITERS' OPEN MIC
featuring Owen Adair Kelley

4/8 TRI TIP TRIO 4/11 BERNARD ANDERSON
4/12 BORIS GARCIA + SYCOMORE SLOUGH
4/13 DAN EL MARLEY (SON OF ZIGGY MARLEY)
4/14 NGOMA ZA KONGO 4/15 MUMBO GUMBO

BERKELEY'S HOME FOR WORLD MUSIC AND DANCE SINCE 1973
1317 San Pablo (at Gilman) (510)525-5054
Calendars info advance tickets: Ashkenaz.com
Connect ALL AGES, ALL THE TIME

Disco Volante
Food • Drink • Music

WED 3/28 @ 8pm	Flamenco downtown!
THU 3/29 @ 5pm	DJ Lebowitz plays Happy Hour Punk Piano
@ 9pm	Studio O Returns!
FRI 3/30 @ 8pm	Brothers Amor Perfeau with Special Guest Brooke D!
SAT 3/31 @ 8pm	LB Music Presents Soulful Saturday!
SUN 4/1 @ 7pm	The Shants, The Quiet American Tippy Canoe & The Bay Area Brief

Serving food late night
Happy Hour

347 14th Street • Oakland, CA • (510) 663-0271

I LEFT MY SCARF AT MISSOURI LOUNGE
2600 San Pablo Ave

LocalOn

Need a new website?

And don't like your current one (looks old, can't make changes, etc.)?

MERCHANTS ALL OVER THE EAST BAY ARE LOVING LOCALON – THEIR WEBSITES ARE DEFINITELY NOTHING LIKE WHAT YOU'RE USED TO.

- You can make changes to the website yourself. You don't need to be a web programmer!
- It's automatically search engine optimized using social and traditional media. You don't need to worry about any of that.
- It's gorgeous. Their designs are definitely top-tier.
- It's low cost (much less $$ than what you'd typically pay).

Visit www.localon.com/merchants

The Uptown
OAKLAND

3/29 DOOR 7PM $10 www.ticketweb.com
AN EVENING WITH COMEDIAN
WILL FRANKEN
SPECIAL GUEST
CHRIS STORIN

3/30 DOOR 9PM $5/ FREE BEFORE 11PM
DERP
DANCE PARTY
WITH DJ'S KRISHNA, MR. NITTY, RUGBY & CSHAY

3/31 DOOR 8PM $12 www.ticketweb.com
THE STRIPMINERS
(FEATURING MEMBERS OF X, THE DONNAS)
THE DIRTY HAND FAMILY BAND
THE PLEASURE KILLS

4/6 DOOR 6PM/SHOW 9PM NO COVER!
RELIGIOUS GIRLS

4/20 DOOR 8PM $35 www.ticketweb.com
BUZZCOCKS

7/13 & 7/14 TWO NIGHTS! $20/$25
THE REVEREND HORTON HEAT
SUPERSUCKERS

WEEKLY EVENTS

3/21 DOOR 9PM NO COVER
DIG THIS!
KALX LOCAL'S ONLY LIVE SHOWCASE:
ADD MOSS, LOS BRAZILS, GUITAR WIZARDS OF THE FUTURE

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT! DOOR 8PM $5
HUBBA HUBBA
CABARET MUSIC COMEDY REVUE

1830 TELEGRAPH AVE., OAKLAND
(510) 451-8100
WWW.UPTOWNNIGHTCLUB.COM

The Dark Entry
Clothes shoes
boots body jewelry
S.E. & M.P. hair dyes
hosiery costumes
accessories
& more
2430 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley
(510) 848-4555 • www.darkentry.com

HAPPY HOUR 4 – 6 PM
MONDAY – FRIDAY
BRING IN THIS AD FOR A $1 PABST
1539 LINCOLN AVE • ALAMEDA

Specializing In Vintage Classic Rock
Fats Music
1451 Webster Street, Alameda
510.769.5136
fatsmusic.com
CELEBRATING OUR 1ST ANNIVERSARY!
We Buy Used Vinyl, Vintage Posters & Underground Magazines
Open 7 Days 11-7 (or by Appt.)

REHEARSE AMERICA
OAKLAND
BIG studios from $465 per month
1st month 1/2 OFF
MONTHLY BAND
REHEARSAL
STUDIOS
(510)568 7035 REHEARSE.COM

PICKS

Moggs

Even though Moggs hasn't been particularly prolific — it only released one song in the last two years, and its show schedule has been just as sparse — the Peninsula duo still ranks as one of my favorite local bands. Its 2005 debut, *The White Belt Is Not Enough* (remember those?) hit my consciousness and never left. It's a seductive mix of dreamy noise-rock and post-punk, stripped down and distorted, with ragged guitar and equally ragged drumming in the vein of Autolux and Unwound. The band is apparently going on more than fifteen years together and this gig has already been canceled once before, so make sure to catch Jason "Sir Plus" and drummer Cara "Miss Minor" at El Rio (3158 Mission St., San Francisco) on Thursday, Mar. 29, with Generalissimo and Minot. Hopefully another two years won't go by before it happens again. 8 p.m., $5. ElRioSF.com — *Kathleen Richards*

Polyphonic Spree

It's been [illegible] years since Polyphonic Spree last toured, but it's safe to say the chamber pop outfit is back with a vengeance, having mounted a several-months-long tour that manages to keep adding new legs — no small feat considering the main act alone is composed of more than twenty band members and untold instruments. So yes, these guys would probably be worth seeing simply based on the sheer spectacle of it all, but there's also a type of music particularly well-suited to live shows, its multilayered sound somehow deepening and loosening in front of a live audience, blossoming in a way it just can't when recorded. Catch them on Tuesday, Apr. 3, at Slim's (333 11th St., San Francisco) — assuming, that is, they'll even all fit onstage. 8 p.m., $18. SlimsPresents.com — *Ellen Cushing*

SFJAZZ Collective

SFJAZZ Collective

Past tributes to Ornette Coleman, Thelonious Monk, and Wayne Shorter allowed the eight-man brass of SFJAZZ Collective to flex, but the group's current homage to soul artist Stevie Wonder shows an increasingly adventurous approach to the jazz canon. The group's latest album, released last year, featured reinterpretations of some of the more obvious Wonder hits — "Superstition," "Sir Duke," "Do I Do," and "My Cherie Amour" among them — but it was mostly packed with lesser known tunes. Even the most avid pop radio consumer isn't likely to know the head of "Young and Playful," or identify the motif on a lilting swing ballad called "Race Babbling." Many of the songs have new rhythmic ideas, altered chord changes, or elaborate solo sections that stray from the A-B-A form in which Stevie Wonder operated. But they're seldom contorted beyond recognition. And to his credit, Wonder really has a jazz composer's sensibility. No wonder SFJAZZ vibraphonist Stefon Harris once listed *Songs in the Key of Life* as one of the best albums of all time. SFJAZZ performs at Yoshi's (510 Embarcadero, Oakland) Friday, Mar. 30 through Sunday, Apr. 1. Shows at 8 p.m. & 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sunday. $20-$28. Yoshis.com — *Rachel Swan*

Das Racist

When you think of local champions of Bay Area rap, Das Racist isn't always the first name to come to mind. But the young, gregarious, and famously unpredictable group, whose members commute between Queens and the Bay Area among other places, is spearheading what should be one of the most substantial showcases of a new wave of hip-hop, both locally and otherwise. Seattle's Nacho Picasso, along with producers Blue Sky Black Death, probably come closest to the Das Racist experience, but there's also local lights such as Oakland's Main Attrakionz and San Jose-based Antwon filling out the bill (check out Antwon's recent slapper "Helicopter"). Austin, Texas emcee Western Tink will also be in attendance, backed by beats from another talented producer, Beautiful Lou. Oakland is also representing with supporting sets from Bobby Peru, *Friendzone*, Rich Millionaires, and more. At 103 Harriet (103 Harriet St., SF) on Friday, Mar. 30. 9 p.m., $15, $20. — *Will Butler*

Das Racist

Reed Fischer

Nile

If you ever want to see a bunch of metal heads get into a seriously heated debate, ask them who the best metal drummer is. Perhaps more than guitarists, drummers are the true measuring stick of a proper metal band, and everyone has an opinion about what qualities are most desirable (groove, speed, creativity, etc.). But when it comes to beats per minute, few can touch George Kollias of Nile. Not only can he play sixteenth notes at 280 BPM, his double-bass technique makes it look incredibly easy by using momentum from his ankles, instead of his legs, which allows him to get multiple hits out of smaller movements. For that, the Greek drummer has earned various endorsements and gets flown to drum clinics around the world, where he demonstrates his super-human skills to jaw-dropped wannabes. Kollias also adds an other-worldly dimension to the South Carolina technical death metal band (which he joined in 2004), whose songs juxtapose hyper-fast playing with Egyptian-ish soundscapes and lyrical themes. In terms of human endurance, it's impressive. At Slim's (333 11th St., San Francisco) on Wednesday, Apr. 4, with The Black Dahlia Murder, Skeletonwitch, and Hour of Penance. 7:30 p.m., $25. SlimsPresents.com — *K.R.*

Classical & Opera

Vocal & Lunch Concertos for Oboe & Violin in C Minor, for Two [illegible] in B [illegible], and for Two Harpsichords in B Major. St. Mark's [illegible] Church, 7 p.m. $17-$50

Oakland Station [illegible] for Sunday champagne brunch, Top of the Mark, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. $59 for brunch plus gratuity and tax

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Station with Future [illegible] & rotating guests, 1300 on Fillmore, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. $38 includes brunch

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] of the Day Sunday Station series, [illegible] 4 p.m. $20-$30, $85 [illegible] and show

[illegible] Trio Chaye Brownies, 8-9 p.m. free

[illegible] featuring Andrew Speight, Sam [illegible], & Mark [illegible]. [illegible] Station 4:30-8:30 p.m. $5

Rock & Pop

[illegible] of Music Band Showcase Rickshaw Stop, 6:30 p.m. $12-$20

[illegible] Saints with Stagger and Fall and Sydney Ducks, Thee Parkside, 4 p.m. free

[illegible] for the Hills with The Creak, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m. $8

[illegible] with No and Sunbeam Rd., Cafe du Nord, 5 p.m. $10

The Wedding Present with Pinky Pigeon, The Independent, 8 p.m. $25

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] & The Gang with Neonatus and The Seve, 8 p.m. [illegible] Music Hall, 8 p.m. $0 $12

Modern Day Moonshine [illegible], 9:30 p.m. [illegible]

MONDAY 2

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Uptown Hubba Hubba live burlesque with Hubba Hubba Revue, The Uptown, 8 p.m. $8

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Oakland Tech Jazz Ensemble & Westlake Jazz Ensembles Yoshi's Oakland, 7 p.m., $15

SAN FRANCISCO

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Le Jazz Hot Le Colonial, 7 p.m. [illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible] Showcase Rickshaw Stop, 7:30 p.m., $17-$20

Communion featuring Kacey Johansing with [illegible], Joseph Childress, and Lael Sowars, Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m. $10, $13

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish [illegible] 9 p.m., free

The Moonlogers with [illegible] and The [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m. $12

Stories The [illegible] with Periphery, Jeff [illegible] and The Safety Fire, Slim's, 7:30 p.m. $20

TUESDAY 3

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country Bluegrass [illegible] Night with [illegible], Yoshi's Bar & Grill, 7:30-11

g.m. free

Station Wooly Peter's Restaurant, 7:30-9 p.m. free

Tuesday Night Live [illegible] This week: Quake City Jug Band, Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden, 7 p.m. $5 suggested

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Eddie [illegible] and with [illegible], Cafe Rouge, 6:30 p.m. free

Jazzschool Tuesdays featuring students from the Berkeley Music school, Jupiter, 8 p.m. free

[illegible] & Station Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m. $15

[illegible] Fewer jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m. [illegible]

Rock & Pop

BandWorks Ashkenaz, 7:30 p.m. $6

[illegible] with The [illegible] Heroes and Levi Strom, The New Parish, 8 p.m. $8, $10

La [illegible] featuring [illegible] and Composure, All Get Out, and [illegible] Rope, Oakland [illegible], 9:30 p.m. $12

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

The Blue Candle spoken word event with comedy and DJs, Eli's Mile High Club, 7 p.m. [illegible]

[illegible] Jupiter, 8 p.m. [illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

All Ages

[illegible] Yard Club, 8:30 p.m. [illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] playing soft jazz piano, Top of the Mark, 6:30-11:30 p.m. $5-$7

Tuesday Night Swings Stompy [illegible] with jazz, plus a swing dance lesson, Verdi Club, 8 p.m. $10-$12

Rock & Pop

More Listings Online

Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or EastBayExpress.com

[illegible] School of [illegible] Showcase Rickshaw Stop, 6:30 p.m. $12-$20

[illegible] Umbrella Park Chalet Brewery, 6:30 p.m. free

[illegible] Spring [illegible] with [illegible], [illegible] Paranoid [illegible] and [illegible], and [illegible], 8 p.m. $17

[illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] U.S. Royalty and DJ set by Station [illegible], [illegible] Hall, 8 p.m. free

[illegible] with The [illegible] and Turtle Young, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m. $8

[illegible] & The Station with [illegible] Azar and A 3-Ra-Sm, [illegible], 9:30 p.m. $5

Station [illegible] with No Lovely Thing and [illegible] Hotel Utah, 8 p.m. $5

Love Songs with People's Temple, Tall Tenters and DJ Agitator, The Knockout, 9:30 p.m. $8

[illegible] with Field Report, Cafe du Nord, 9 p.m. $12

WEDNESDAY 4

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Anais Mitchell with Big Tree, Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $20.50-$22.50

Whiskey Brothers old-time and bluegrass, Albatross Pub, 8 p.m. free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Bob Kenn & the Sound Wood Brothers Roadhouse, 4-7 p.m. free

[illegible] Station [illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m. $15

Jazz Theory Performance Class with Carl Station 57th Street Gallery, 8-9 p.m.

Live Jazz Townhouse Bar & Grill, 7:30 p.m., free

[illegible] clever jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Will [illegible] piano music, Campo di [illegible], 6-9 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

Dave Hooley piano [illegible] of [illegible] fame, plus [illegible], Pete's Basement, 8 p.m., free

Dr. [illegible] with Bobby Joe [illegible] and the [illegible], Tupac Hooley, The Santa & [illegible] Show, and Sean McArdle, The New Parish, 9 p.m. $7-$10

KALX 90.7 FM Presents: Big This! weekly local band showcase, The Stork, 9:30 p.m. free

Mod Night Spreckels Lounge, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] with Andrew Helmgren, Lydia [illegible], and Amy Miller (Host), Vaus, 8 p.m. $15-$20

The Wildin' Gee Stork Club, 8 p.m. $5

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Ashkenaz, 8 p.m. $7

[illegible] Night with Reggae Flash and DJ [illegible], Dorsey's Locker, 11 p.m. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Country Jazz w/ [illegible] & Chuck, Plough and Stars, 9 p.m. [illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] and the Station [illegible] Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m. $10

[illegible] with [illegible] & Michael Abramson, Amnesia, 7 p.m.

[illegible] with the [illegible] Station [illegible], Amnesia, 9 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

The [illegible] Station with [illegible], and Hour of Penance, Slim's, 8 p.m. $20

[illegible] School of [illegible] Showcase Rickshaw Stop, 6:30 p.m. $12-$20

[illegible] with Spectorials and Mrs. Magician, Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m. $21

[illegible] with Empire State and [illegible] After [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $8

[illegible] Collective with The Piano (Closing set) and Matt Pierson, Elbo Room, 9 p.m. $8

[illegible] with [illegible] Station, The Fillmore, 8 p.m. $25

[illegible] with Station of [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m. $15

Urban [illegible] featuring The Glowing Stars, Leilah, and Skylofting, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m. $7

The Wooden Sky with Snowmass and Dave Mulik, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m. $7

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] with Brother Ali, Cafe du Nord, 8 p.m. $12

[illegible] with [illegible], Elbo Room, 9:30 p.m. $6

[illegible] Sessions Dance party with Billy Magic, Pleasuremaker, Wendell "Cat Brown" [illegible] and Kevin "The Wizard" Wong, [illegible] Room, 9:30 p.m. $5

Submissions for music listings should be emailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland CA 94607. Deadline is fourteen days prior to the event date.

THE STARRY PLOUGH PUB

THU 3/29 8:00PM — Hairy Music Presents SNAFU TEST: AN IMPROVISED CONCERT EXPERIENCE (MEMBERS OF [illegible] CASH [illegible] ANTIGONE & MORE)

FRI 3/30 8:30PM — SS Fridays Presents Smoldering Country & the Social Justice Blues with SLOW MOTION COWBOYS, [illegible] BELKNAP, ANDREW BLAIR

SAT 3/31 8:30PM — Seaweed Sway Presents THE LAWLANDS, RACHEL [illegible], [illegible]

THU 4/5 8:00PM — THE ABC JAM Hosted by THE GOLDDIGGERS

FRI 4/6 8:30PM — HELLA FUN TRIBUTE NIGHT Starring THE [illegible], [illegible]

SAT 4/7 8:30PM — [illegible] Presents FRENCH CASSETTES, RIVI TIM TIGER, THE ROSELINE

KITCHEN OPEN DAILY UNTIL 10PM

THE STARRY IRISH MUSIC SESSION - ADVANCED TUNES SESSION

STARRY PLOUGH IRISH CEILI

FREE OPEN MIC W/ JOAN PEZ

$5 DOOR THE BERKELEY SLAM 3/21 FEATURING SANNY STRUCK & CUPCAKE

YOUTH OPEN MIC

THE EAST BAY'S LONGEST OPERATING NIGHTCLUB

WWW.STARRYPLOUGHPUB.COM

3101 SHATTUCK

BERKELEY 510.841.2082

LUKA'S CLUB SCHEDULE

Voted Best Place to Dance & Best Pick Up Bar

WED 9PM — THE JET SET DJ SANTERO & LIVE PERFORMANCE FROM VYTAL THEORY — Music Dance Party w/ the latest grooves from Asia, the Americas & beyond

THUR 9PM — BODY LANGUAGE NEW CLUB MIXOLOGIST DJ's ACES & GURU-G — 80's & 90's funk, pop, R&B & hip hop

WEEKEND SPECIAL COVER $5 BEFORE 10PM

FRI 10PM — I LOVE THE TOWN DJ's ZITA (B.A.S.S.) & MADRESS — SPECIAL GUEST DJ CRIMSON — Funk, dancehall and Oaktown love

SAT 10PM — SMOOVE SATURDAYS DJ SERG & OUMA — hip hop, new soul & world flavors

SUN 9PM — POLYGENRIC! DJs AEHLDEE MAXIMAAL, DUBOUAPH

MON 9PM — THREE DAY WEEKEND DJ PROZACK TURNER

TUES 9PM — SOULTYAH RESIDENT DJ JOAN G — dancehall & african rhythms

LUKA'S

2221 BROADWAY @ W GRAND OAKLAND

www.LUKASOAKLAND.COM

COMMUNITY CREATIVITY CULTURAL EXCHANGE

RHYTHMIX CULTURAL WORKS

ONLY 5 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN OAKLAND

MAR 29 — [illegible] THEATER PRESENTS [illegible]

APR 12 — BINGO CABARET — AMAZING ENTERTAINMENT AND CASH PRIZES!

APR 13 — MAKE DO EXHIBIT — AN EYE-POPPING COLLECTION OF RECYCLED AND UPCYCLED ARTS!

APR 26 — [illegible]

APR 28 — LUCKY LADIES LAUNCH PARTY

RHYTHMIX SUMMER CAMPS!

NEW CLASSES ADDED — 1ST CLASS FREE FOR NEW STUDENTS! ART, ZUMBA, CAPOEIRA, SALSA, NIA & MORE

2513 BLANDING AVENUE ALAMEDA

510 865 5060

WWW.RHYTHMIX.ORG

Supporting The Independent Brewer
18 Taps & Hundreds of Bottles
Beercafe
ØL
NOW OPEN
Hundreds of Meticulously Chosen and Well Cared for Beers For You to Enjoy Here or at Home
1541 Giammona Drive, Walnut Creek, Ca.

ELI'S
MILE HIGH CLUB
LIVE FAST
2 blocks from MacArthur BART

THURSDAYS
FRIDAYS
SATURDAYS
DEEJAYS
DRINKS
DANCING
NO COVER
DRINK SPECIALS
TUESDAYS
Rockstar Karaoke!
Sign Ups at 9pm • $50 Bar Tab For The Best Performer
WEDNESDAYS
Live Salsa Music Dance Lessons & DJs
SUNDAYS
"King of Kings" Reggae Sundays
Live roots music from 9-11pm
Resident dj smoke one & special guests until 2am!
SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST
lommori presents
MS. CHEMIST, THE CHAW
free live music! doors 9pm!
Shattuck Down Low
OPEN TUE-SUN
2284 SHATTUCK AVE
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
510.548.4735
SHATTUCKDOWNLOW.COM

LUCKY 13
Alameda
Open 12pm-2am Everyday 1301 Park Street
Pool · Skeeball · Pinball · Patio
Best Beer Selection In Alameda
$1 Off First Drink With Scolari's Lunch Receipt (Valid M-F Before 2pm)

EAR PEACE RECORDS
EPR
MUSIC
VINYL, CD'S DVD'S (WE SUPPORT LOCALS!)
FEATURING LISTENING LOUNGE
FOR ENSURED QUALITY PURCHASE
CLOTHING
MEN'S WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S CLOTHES & HATS!
LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMPANIES
IN STORE EVENTS FREESTYLE FRIDAY WEEKLY
SPRAY PAINT
MONTANA • BELTON • FLAME • KRINK
3288 ADELINE ST. BERKELEY, CA • 510-547-1030

DJ & DANCE

EAST BAY

THURSDAY 29

Academy Nights [illegible] VJ Joe S. spinning hip-hop, R&B, dancehall, & Top 40, White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $3. Dancing free w/ valid ID

Club Fever w/ Sound Bwoy Sound spinning reggae & dancehall, Shashamane Restaurant, 10 p.m., free

Eclipse Club w/ DJs Rod Bowe & Club Fox, Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., free

Dancing Thursdays Radio, 10 p.m., free

DJ Add1 spinning eclectic [illegible], Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free

DJ Dance The Layover, 6 p.m., free

DJ Mood Spider, 9 p.m., free

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free

DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], Lost Weekend Lounge, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free

[illegible] w/ resident DJ [illegible] and weekly guest DJs, Cage, 9 p.m., $5

International Night Lounge featuring DJ the Lab spinning [illegible], French pop, Bollywood, film soundtracks, Latin American garage, easy lounge, & exotica, Forbidden Island, 8 p.m., free

Jungle Boogie w/ DJs Poleon, Kool Kyle and Uncle [illegible], Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] indie pop, mash-ups, new wave, [illegible], 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free

Roots Rock w/ DJ Eddie T. plus [illegible], [illegible] Bar & Grill, 9 p.m., $10

[illegible] DJ Eddie Valencia, 9 p.m., free

Tasty Thursdays night w/ DJ Mo Yoruba spinning hip-hop & R&B, Club 21, 9 p.m., $12-$15

Yoruba Dance Sessions spinning DJs Carlos Mena and Cadi [illegible], Bench and Bar, 9 p.m., free

FRIDAY 30

Club 21 [illegible] spinning Latin music, Club 21, 9 p.m., $10-$15

[illegible] Jupiter, 9 p.m., free

Dancing w/ DJ [illegible] DJ Ryan spinning the hottest music in the Bay Area, White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $5

Doujays, Ouzos & Dancing" DJ [illegible] & special guests [illegible] and Violets, Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] hip-hop, [illegible], The Dreamer, 9 p.m., $5, free before 11 p.m.

DJ Night DJs [illegible] funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free

DJ [illegible]'s Fresh Beats Happy Hour w/ DJs spinning hip-hop, soul, & funk, Paragon Lounge, 5-9 p.m., free

Friday Night Salsa w/ [illegible] DJs spinning salsa, La [illegible] Cafe, 9 p.m., $8

Friday Hot [illegible] w/ DJ Supa K, [illegible], 10 p.m., $5

Happy Hours w/ DJ Golden [illegible] spinning punk, rock, indie, & new rock, The Missouri Lounge, 8-10 p.m., free

Hip-Hop Dance [illegible] w/ [illegible], Club 1220, 9 p.m., $6

Latin Explosion DJ Jorge [illegible] salsa, cumbia, salsa, merengue, [illegible], Spanish pop, & house, Bench and Bar, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., $8-$10

[illegible] weekly in-house DJ [illegible], Amoeba Music, 7:15 p.m., free

Old-School hip-hop, [illegible], Radio, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] Roots w/ DJ Dwayne spinning reggae, soca, salsa, & R&B, Island Paradise Club, 10 p.m., ladies free before 11:30 p.m.

Retro-[illegible] Daniel Golden Beats '80s pop night, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free

Sultry Fridays DJ Cash & Fat Joe spin R&B & soul, Kimball's Carnival, 9 p.m., $5

Soulify w/ DJ Roots History spinning northern soul, [illegible], '60s, disco, punk, new wave, & rock 'n' roll, Ruby Room, 10 p.m., free

World Soul Fridays spinning DJ Tropic spinning Jamaican soca, Yoruba, salsa, merengue, dancehall reggae, [illegible], Arabic music, & more, Congo Lounge, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY 31

All [illegible] [illegible] DJs spinning R&B & hip-hop, [illegible], 10 p.m., free

Catch a [illegible] w/ DJ Tropic spinning [illegible], Congo Lounge, 10 p.m., free

Club Maxwell's DJs Jerry Ross & Soul Professor spin R&B, soul, funk, reggae, & hip-hop, Maxwell's Lounge, 9 p.m., $10

Club [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning hip-hop & R&B, Bench and Bar, 9 p.m., $8 before 11 p.m.

Dancehall Saturdays w/ [illegible] spinning reggae, dancehall, & hip-hop, The Avenue, 9 p.m., free

Doujays, [illegible] & Dancing" [illegible] & special guests spinning [illegible], Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., free

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free

More Listings Online
Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

Superstar Saturday Nights w/ DJ [illegible], 9 p.m., $5

La Bota Loca Latino cowboy night w/ DJs spinning salsa, cumbia, & [illegible] plus live go-go [illegible] equipment, Club 21, 9 p.m., $8-$15

La [illegible] dance party in the lounge, La Peña Cultural Center, 10 p.m., $7

Magic [illegible] DJ [illegible] & [illegible] host genre-surfing extravaganza, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free

Pop History 101 DJs spin pop hits from the Stooges to [illegible], [illegible], 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free

Warm Up w/ DJ Fluid Cut spinning hip-hop, R&B, [illegible] Lounge, 9:30 p.m., free

SUNDAY 1

DJ Heavy Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free

King of Kings DJ Smoke-One and guests spin reggae, dancehall, roots, & lovers' rock, Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., $10

Mojo w/ DJ [illegible] spinning soul, funk, & [illegible] old-school, [illegible] Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] Tiki Retro Lounge spinning DJ [illegible] spinning rock 'n' roll and more, Forbidden Island, 3 p.m., free

Soul Sanctuary [illegible] Community [illegible] [illegible], 11 a.m.-1 p.m., [illegible]

The Soul-Full Club DJ [illegible] & guests spin soulful grooves, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] Tiki Sundays DJs spin ska, rocksteady, & roots reggae, [illegible], 7 p.m., free

MONDAY 2

Monday [illegible] [illegible], The New Parish, 10 p.m., $6

Three-Day Weekend DJ [illegible] hip-hop, R&B, & [illegible], Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

Underground Lounge psyche, '60s & '70s music, Radio, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning rock and roll, soft hits, oldies, & soul, The [illegible] Lounge, 10 p.m., free

TUESDAY 3

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free

DJ [illegible] [illegible] punk, Lost Weekend Lounge, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free

Lounge college night featuring DJ Speedy & DJ Krazy, Club 21, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] Vinyl DJ Eddie Valencia, 9 p.m., free

Soul Food DJs Juan & [illegible] spinning reggae & world beats, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ DJ Shattuck spinning [illegible] punk, hardcore, & metal, The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m., free

WEDNESDAY 4

[illegible], free

Hump Day w/ DJs [illegible], The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free

The Jet Set w/ DJ [illegible] and special [illegible], Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free

The Jump Off' Hump Day Hip-Hop w/ DJs spinning hip-hop, Club 21, 9 p.m., $5-$15

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] Dog, The Layover, 6 p.m., free

Metal Fight featuring Lord Angry Money spinning metal, thrash, and more, Merchant's Saloon, 10 p.m., free

[illegible] spoken poetry followed by DJ music, [illegible] Lounge, 8-10 p.m.

[illegible] featuring DJ Dub, Forbidden Island, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] Latin cowboy night w/ host Violeta, Bench and Bar, 7 p.m., $6-$15

[illegible] Punk, indie, new wave, & [illegible] rock w/ DJ [illegible], Ruby Room, free before 10 p.m., 2 a.m., free

[illegible] [illegible], 9 p.m., $15

PICKS

Kid Sister and DJ Shortee

[illegible] in Doug Pray's 2001 feature-length documentary *Scratch* was the conspicuous absence of female DJs — but for one. Shannon Bruce, aka DJ Shortee, is widely regarded as one of the top turntablists in the world. Her résumé includes a solo album, a battle record, the coveted "Power Mixer" title from Los Angeles radio station Power 106, and a series of pedagogical videos in which she imparts lessons on the art of scratching. She'll appear this week with Chicago-based rapper and former Kanye West collaborator Kid Sister, in a celebration to mark the ten-year anniversary of local B-girl dance collective Sisters of the Underground. Fittingly, the event will also feature a dance battle for $200, with veteran dancers Tiffany Bong, Pandora, and Cristi judging. Add to that an art gallery with live painting by BabyOne; music sets by [illegible], La Femme Deadly Venoms, and TOAST; a vendor fair; a DJ showcase featuring [illegible], 13 Moons, and Jasmine De Fem; and manicures by Lila. That's right, at this anniversary party you're free to battle, or get your nails did. At Public Works (161 Erie St., San Francisco) on Saturday Mar. 31, 10 p.m., $12-$18. SistersUnderground.[illegible] — *Rachel Swan*

AQUARIAN AGE

PAST OR PRESENT?

For the week of March 28-April 3, 2012

By Raffee Finn

Past, present, and future merge in frequent déjà vu this week — so frequent, in fact, that you're sure to feel as if you've been "here" as well as "there" before. And chances are you have — just not in this dimension. Pay attention. It's hard to know where memory, imagination, and prognostication meet this week. The planets are moving along diverse pathways, and while some of the planetary interactions display their power directly, others are subtle with nuance. Riding these different currents will require skill. Some of us are likely to feel as if history is repeating itself — and it is. Others could lose their balance, as routine reality morphs into the Dreamtime, causing psychological or emotional vertigo and dislocation. But for most of us, the challenge lies in figuring out how to hold onto a strong sense of personal direction as we simultaneously find the heart to be patient with our fellow travelers and with ourselves.

The dual Mercury and Mars Retrogrades are at the core of this dimensional convergence. Mercury ends its retrograde on April 4, and oddly, it goes direct exactly at the degree that Mars began its retrograde on January 23. That shared position is likely to have many of us revisiting events related to that specific time, particularly when it comes to travel, communication, contracts, and negotiations — all categories within Mercury's vast domain. Don't be surprised if you receive emails, text messages, or even packages sent to you or by you long before Mercury began its retrograde on March 12.

As Mercury starts to slow down this week in preparation for its "turn around," daily life is certain to slow to a crawl. And while that's "normal" for the end of any Mercury Retrograde, this particular course correction could feel even more frustrating, because Mars is also slowing down in preparation for its turn around on April 14. (Technically, it's April 13, but so late in the day it might as well be the next day. All of the sticklers about details, please forgive my latitude.) By next week, we will start to feel the undertow of Mars finally ending its review.

But Mars still plays a distinctive role in creating the multidimensional currents of the week. It opposes Neptune in Pisces, an interaction that tends toward hypersensitivity. Be prepared to feel out of sorts and anticipate a strong desire to self-medicate. This opposition has the potential to open up psychic channels, but that potential also carries the possibility of getting lost in assumptions, imaginary or actual.

It's yet another week of learning to live comfortably in uncertainty, but don't be surprised if it's an opportunity you'd rather not take advantage of. Not only are we dealing with flashbacks and/or flash-forwards, we are also dealing with power issues, as the ongoing Sun/Pluto square turns exact and separating on March 29. Be prepared for everyone to want to be in control of everything. Also anticipate politics turning even more vitriolic — if that's possible. The best way through these waves is to find your center of gravity and to hold on to it. So do whatever it is you do to stay centered and then help those around you to do the same.

If you know your Ascendant and/or your Moon Sign, read that, too.

ARIES Take a deep breath, exhale just as deeply, and contemplate your next step. You're not required to make any decisions. All you need to do is listen closely to your heart and follow its lead.

TAURUS Just continue to allow yourself the luxury of living in your imagination. Don't worry about the practicalities. Your innate pragmatism will take care of those eventualities when they occur.

GEMINI It's not an easy call, but if you stay anchored in gathering information, you will collect the necessary data to make a wise decision. Take your time and refuse to be pressured into an emotional response.

CANCER Try not to let harsh words turn into full-blown accusations. Of course you have a right to your opinion, and so do others. Rather than shut down, open up.

LEO It's only a money crisis if you make it one — so be clear about your priorities and plan accordingly. Remember: No one's true value is ever measured in dollars and cents.

VIRGO Be clear with your partners about what you need, and listen carefully to the response. Don't be fooled by, or satisfied with, compliance, and you'll engender genuine compromise.

LIBRA Brood if you must, but don't get caught by the Brain Worm, that famous mental parasite that steals all your joy as it compulsively chews on the same information. Instead, learn to let go.

SCORPIO The solution is there, but you'll only find it if you're willing to embrace a new perspective. Let go of the need to control the outcome, and you'll create the space for innovation.

SAGITTARIUS You're still in a wildly creative phase, and this week there are opportunities to apply your vision to all sorts of plans and projects. Don't hold back and you won't be disappointed.

CAPRICORN Issues of security continue to rumble deep within, and while you're not used to these inner quakes, you are used to handling difficult situations. Rather than worry about survival, move into positive action.

AQUARIUS Continue to hold steady to your creative vision and you'll be immune to the opinions of others who are less informed about the situation. This isn't about being smug; it's about having a truly confident heart.

PISCES It's likely you've been experiencing profound shifts in consciousness. While some of them may feel like the culmination of hard work, others may feel like unexpected gifts. ●

For More Info

Raffee Finn specializes in Transformational Astrology. For readings, call 1-888-937-9264, write P.O. Box 343, New York, NY 10025, visit AquarianAge.com, or e-mail Raffee@AquarianAge.com. Copyright © 2012 by Raffee Finn.

Mind, Body, Spirit

CALL TO ADVERTISE 510-[illegible]

Earth Circles Counseling Center

Holistic Psychotherapy
Help with tough times.
We offer effective compassionate guidance with addiction, depression & anxiety, eating disorders, LGBT issues, relationships, self-esteem, spiritual issues, trauma & grief. Sliding Scale.
EarthCirclesCounseling.com
PH 510-601-1929

Finding Your Way, Engaging Your Potential

Center for Personal & Relational Development
Find a Therapist in Eastbay or San Francisco
888 217 2773 (CPRD)
www.cprd.us

The Nia Center

Offers low cost and effective counseling services for individuals, couples and families. Life Coaching and Hypnotherapy also available. 510-496-3491
www.niahealingcenter.org

Acupressure and Foot Reflexology

For pain relief, immune system support, energy, stress, depression and much more.
Meave O'Connor, Acupressure Practitioner
Central Berkeley, 510-540-1095
Visit sacredflows.com
meave@sacredflows.com

Yoga and Bodywork

Kundalini: understanding and transcending the inner critics role in blocking Kundalini. An 8 session course on releasing the energy bound in each Chakra using movement, chanting, meditation and psychodynamic inquiry. Enrollment for 12 people, dates and times TBD
info kungha@earthlink.net

Free Counseling
Berkeley Free Clinic

Peer Counseling Collective
Drop-in Mon-Thu 6:45-9pm
2339 Durant, Berkeley CA
freepeercounseling@gmail.com
510 548 2570 ext. 2250

Beautiful Loks

A holistic approach to locking hair
No twist. No wax. No maintenance
Lok extension, repair, and restoration
Free consultation
Lokitician: Moesa
510 978 7378
BeautifulLoks@yahoo.com
www.BeautifulLoks.com

Grateful Heart Holistic Therapy Center

more than just words
Experience connection in relationships. Discover your energy and creativity. Move through your blocks or traumas. Compassionate, effective holistic therapists, sliding fee scale
www.GratefulHeartTherapy.org
(510) 394 5065

Have you tried Sound?

Call Lize Rees Parker sound healing services for help with stress, chronic pain and more. Berkeley and Richmond locations
(510) 222 6486
www.healwithsound.com

Become a Birth and Postpartum Care Giver (Doula)

Child Birth Educator and More
Classes Starting Soon
Birth Professionals of the Bay Area
510-595-5534
www.niahealingcenter.org

BLOCKED FROM YOUR SUCCESS?

Career? Financial? Love, Marriage, Relationships? Health & Addictions? Bad Luck? Childhood Issues? Negative Energies surrounding you? I can rid you of all these! And permanently!
Contact: (503) 970-6977

Transcendental Meditation Program (TM)

FREE introductory talks
Learn about the benefits of TM and how TM differs from other types of meditation.
Free Talks March 7 and 21, 7 PM
1280 6th St., Berkeley
510 872 7287
berkeley@tm.org,
tm.org/transcendental-meditation-berkeley

Feeling Stressed? Pain? Out of Sorts?

Restore ease, function and well being. Ortho-Bionomy® with Sara Sunstein. 30 years hands-on experience helping people feel better. Private sessions and classes.
510 526 5414
www.sarasunstein.com
FREE TALKS: Oakland Library, Wednesdays, 6:30. 3/28—Psych and Soma: exploring the interweaving of emotions and body. 4/4—Engaging the Body's Desire to Heal

Personal Growth

Meditation and Inquiry Group. Informed and inspired by the work of Almaas, Gebser and Vajrayana. Ongoing on tuesday nights for over 2 years. Now open to new members.
info kungha@earthlink.net

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Classifieds

Contact Us

Ads can be placed Mon–Fri during business hours by calling 510-[illegible]-3800 or by E-mailing: [illegible]

Online

[illegible]

Ad Deadline:

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

[illegible]

SAVAGE LOVE

YOUNG AND PROUD

Advice for vulnerable teens.

By Dan Savage

I am the father of a recently out eighteen-year-old gay boy. Here's the problem: My son is in a relationship with a 31-year-old guy. I'm not okay with that. Yes, my son is a legal adult at eighteen and can make his own decisions, but he's also still in high school. His mother argues that in order to be supportive, we can't object to this relationship. I don't think this is a gay versus straight objection. If I had an eighteen-year-old heterosexual daughter who was in a relationship with a 31-year-old man, I would have exactly the same concerns and objections. Beyond that, even if I can establish that it's okay to have an objection or to feel the need to take some action to be supportive for my son, I don't know what I can or should do. What say you, oh wise one?

One Concerned Dad

Your wife is wrong. Homophobic parents are bad for gay kids. But "supportive" parents who let their gay kids get away with murder—supportive parents who stop parenting their gay kids because they worry about seeming homophobic if they object to lousy gay boyfriends, choices, apparel, etc.—aren't doing their gay kids any favors, either. Your son, despite what he might tell you, needs his parents to advise him, meddle in his affairs, even object and interfere.

Here's what I would do if I were in your shoes, OCD—I would take my son's 31-year-old boyfriend out for a beer and ask him a lot of pointed questions: How did you meet my son? Are you having sex with my son? Are you using condoms? What is your HIV status? How old was your last boyfriend? And finally, do you realize that I will tear you gay limb from gay limb if you hurt my gay kid?

As for your son, OCD, tell him that you realize gay guys his age sometimes date older men because there aren't a lot of boys his own age to choose from. (If you didn't already know that, now you do.) And tell your son that this gay dude you know—that would be me, OCD—told you that something's usually wrong when a 31-year-old is dating a teenager. Something's usually wrong with the 31-year-old. There are exceptions, of course, and maybe his boyfriend is exceptional—maybe he's not a jerk who pursues naive boys because gay men his own age can see through his shit—but the simple fact of his age requires that he be subjected to a higher degree of scrutiny than a first boyfriend who was closer to your son's own age.

Finally, OCD, tell your son that you know he's an adult and free to date whomever he wants. But you're his dad and he has to hear you out—whether he wants to or not.

I'm sixteen and an openly gay boy in a very welcoming community. My first boyfriend and I broke up recently. We'll be friends again, I'm sure, but now I don't even have a hint of any sort of anything on the horizon, and it's driving me insane. All the out gay guys here are nice, but most are sassy stereotypical caricature flamer types and I'm not attracted to any of them. But those are the kind of people who are out at sixteen. I just hate thinking I'm alone for the foreseeable future. I know the logical thing is for me to wait, but how am I supposed to wait? Is there any alternative?

Whiny, Angsty Sad Teen Entreats Dan

Sorry, WASTED, but you're gonna get the same advice I gave to hard and hard-up sixteen-year-old straight boys: Worry less about getting your sixteen-year-old self laid and more about getting your twenty-year-old self laid. Get out of the house and do shit: get books and read shit, volunteer for a political organization and change shit. You'll have more boys to choose from in a few years and you'll be a more interesting, more informed, more attractive guy thanks to all that doing, reading, and volunteering. Beat off in the interim, WASTED, remembering to vary your masturbatory routine, and try to cultivate your own erotic imagination.

I'm not telling you that you should wait until you're twenty to date. But you'll find the next few years less aggravating if you take the long view and keep busy, all the while jerking it to your heart's content.

As for those "sassy stereotypical caricature flamer types"... SSCFTs can be attractive, and some guys are into SSCFTs. But some boys react to the pressures of being young, gay, and out by dialing it up to twenty. It's a force field—it's a fierce field—that many SSCFTs eventually drop. Which is to say: You may have already met your next boyfriend, WASTED, but his fierce field was up. You might want to give 'em a little time.

My thirteen-year-old nephew, who is straight, was in a play last year. It was a very positive experience. The only problem is one of the theater group's fans, who is fifty and gay, befriended my sister and seems to be fixated on my nephew. He posts to my nephew's Facebook page, he's constantly asking my sister to allow my nephew to spend the night at his apartment, etc. I would like you to weigh in on this situation, Dan. Other family members share my suspicions, but we're afraid to say anything to my sister because she has a temper. Should I go ahead and tell my sister and brother-in-law that I think the guy is attracted to my nephew?

A Worried Aunt

Thanksgiving, 2019: "I'm so sorry you got raped when you were thirteen. I thought something was off about that guy. But I didn't say anything at the time because I was afraid your mom would yell at me. So, um, pass the yams?"

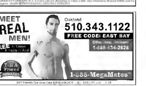
Unless you're looking forward to making an apology like that when your nephew confronts his whole family for failing to protect him when he was a child, AWA, you should speak the fuck up. Talk to your sister, temper be damned, and talk to your nephew, too. Your sister could be color-blind in addition to being an angerbomb—prone to rages and incapable of seeing red flags—and it's possible that your nephew already told his mother that this man makes him uncomfortable and got yelled at himself.

Firmly raise your concerns, AWA, but don't make accusations. You may not have all the information. But in my opinion, the invite itself is a mentor-disqualifying display of piss-poor judgment.

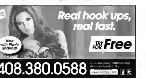
Speak up, AWA. ●

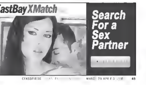
Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at TheStranger.com/savage.
mail@savagelove.net

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. [illegible] Title Order No. [illegible] Investor/Insurer No. [illegible] APN No. [illegible] YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED [illegible]. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by [illegible], AN UNMARRIED MAN, dated [illegible] and recorded [illegible], as Instrument No. [illegible], in Book , Page), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Alameda County, State of California, will sell on [illegible] at 12:30PM, At the Fallon Street entrance to the County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612 at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: [illegible] CHRISTIE AVE [illegible], EMERYVILLE, CA, [illegible]. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is [illegible]. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. DATED: [illegible] RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., [illegible] SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: [illegible], Sale Information [illegible] By: . Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. ASAP# [illegible] 03/14/2012, 03/21/2012, 03/28/2012

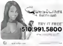


24/7 Friendly Customer Care 1-888-634-2628 18+ [illegible] PC LLC [illegible]




EastBay XMatch
Search For a Sex Partner

WARNING: MY SESSIONS ARE ADDICTIVE!!!
C.ROSE
510-628-0529



Adult

ADULT CLUBS

Interracial Kink Swingers Party

www.interracial-kink.org

ADULT SERVICES

Beautiful Brunette, 31, Seek Sex!

www.AshleyMadison.com

Desperate Housewife Desperate for Sex!

www.AshleyMadison.com/

SpeedEncounters.com

BODY RUBS

I know what you want and I have what you need!

Sexy Sabrina
(510) 677-2368

Tall Very Sensual Mature Blonde

Tami 510-992-9096

Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice!

Bi-Black & Masculine

Well Groomed with Nice Round Butt!

Kimberly's Incredible Hot Bubble Wash

East Bay 24/7
510-482-2810

Tory's Tender Touch

FANTASY/FETISH

Your Naughty Secrets Come Alive

www.fantasymakers.com, (510) 234-7097

Give in to your fantasies!
TRY FOR FREE
510.859.0783
More Local Numbers: 1.800.700.8886

PHONE ENTERTAINMENT

Hot Local Men & Men!

Use Free Code 6913 18+

Men Seeking Men
1-877-409-8884

MASSAGE PARLOR

Experience The Energy Of Healing Hands

Indulge yourself

Massage For Men

Swedish by Rick DAILY

Crystal Massage

Professional AM

Lin Massage Therapy

Crystal Island Massage

Holiday Spa

Carnation Acupressure

JA Health Care

Family Spa
Grand Opening!

Ping & Yuan CMT

TV & TS

Asian Massage Studio
Private Room with Shower
Angela
5038 MacArthur Boulevard
Oakland CA 94619-1361
(510) 482-[illegible]

FOREVER DAY SPA
GRAND OPENING!!!
Best In Relaxation
(510) 651-1898
43488 GRIMMER BLVD.
FREMONT CA 94538
All Major credit cards

CARNATION ACUPRESSURE
Open 7 Days A Week 9:30am-11:00PM
510-2[illegible] Walk-ins Welcome
10817 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530
Free Street Front Parking
[illegible]

Golden Touch Spa
Grand Opening!
Great Relaxation
With Deep Tissue Massage
510-649-8880
2515 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley, CA 94704
All Cards Accepted

GRAND OPENING
Family Spa
100% Relaxation
Full Body Asian Massage
Call 510 633-[illegible]
382 Bancroft Ave,
San Leandro
www.familyfnalspa.com

Asian Full Body Massage
Walk-ins are welcome
All Licensed & Certified
2477 Grove Way, Castro Valley
(Corner of Grove Way
next to McDonalds,
same driveway "Quick Stop")
510-886-8811
3623 MacArthur Blvd, Suite A
Oakland (near 35th Ave)
510-336-3066
www.sunflowerqi.com

EUPHORIC GODDESS HEALING TOUCH
REIKI MASTER · CMP · TANTRIKA
925-812-1613

C ROSE
CRISANAROSE.SHOWWEB.COM
510-712-5671
No Text Spam · Callers Only

H&Y Massage
$35/1 hr
510-559-8988
835 San Pablo Ave.
Albany CA 94706
10am - 10pm 7 Days/Week

CRYSTAL MASSAGE
510·848·5354
Swedish, Shiatsu, Deep Tissue, Table Shower
[illegible] Shattuck Ave
Berkeley [illegible] Midnight

Lakeshore Spa
$35 60min Full Body Massage
$19.99 30min Foot Massage
3 Rooms Available!
Tel: 510 788 7925
3380 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland
2nd Fl. Walkway & Entrance around
the corner of T-Mobile on Rand Ave

510 277 6777
Grand Opening
Free Table Shower
Acupressure
Deep tissue
Swedish
3770 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland CA 94609

Good Fortune Spa
Asian Massage
Grand Opening!
(707) 452-0818
1241 Alamo Drive Suite 3
Vacaville CA 95687

T.S. No. 11-17120 APN: 049-1549-005-00 Loan No. 0240427 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/21/2007 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, Cashier's Check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: RYAN T. YOKOGAWA, A SINGLE PERSON Duly Appointed Trustee: Law Offices of Les Zieve Deed of Trust recorded 06/29/2007 as Instrument No. 2007242043 in book ---, page --- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, Date of Sale: 4/18/2012 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: At the Fallon St emergency exit to the Alameda County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon St. Oakland, CA Estimated Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: $305,537.07 Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1121 40TH STREET 1005 EMERYVILLE, California 94608 AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DOT A.P.N.#.: 049-1549-005-00 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714) 573-1965 or visit this Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 11-17120. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: March 23, 2012 Law Offices of Les Zieve, as Trustee 18377 Beach Blvd., Suite 210 Huntington Beach, CA 92648 For Non-Automated Sale Information, call: (714) 848-7920 For Sale Information: (714) 573-1965 or www.priorityposting.com Christine O'Brien, Trustee Sale Officer THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. P934943 3/28, 4/4, 04/11/2012

www.EastBayExpress.com/TheStore
'CUZ YOU NEVER LEFT YOUR HEART IN SF. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN RIGHT HERE

GET LEGAL!
MEDICAL MARIJUANA EVALUATIONS
Match any local price
24/7 Verification
Dr. Hanya Barth
OAKLAND 510.465 0420
SAN FRANCISCO 415 255 1200
www.GREEN215.com

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Bulletin Board

To advertise on the Bulletin Board call 510-879-3800 Deadline is Monday 4pm

BANKRUPTCY LAW
FLAT RATES & PAYMENT PLANS
The Law Office of
Daniel A. Diskin
Call Today to Speak with Attorney Daniel A. Diskin
& Receive a Free Consultation Regarding Your Case.
(415) 946-0438
www.diskinlaw.com

up to 40 Strains of Clones and 100 Seeds available everyday

Oakland retail boutique
NOW OPEN!
Showcasing the finest cannabis accessories

1840 Embarcadero, Oakland • (510) 533 0146
2106 Ringwood Ave, San Jose • (408) 321-8424
11AM - 8PM • 7 days/week
harborsidehealthcenter.com

Mystic Herbal Body Shop

Alternative Topical Pain Relief
Ancient Cupping Massage Therapy
510 689 6101

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County

Needs Volunteers to answer our 24 hour crisis lines. No experience necessary - we train. Call for more details 510 550-8240

Earth Circles Counseling Center

Compassionate, Professional Therapists. Sliding Scale. Call 510-601 1920
www.EarthCirclesCounseling.com

Alameda West End Flea Market

"Something For Everyone!"
9am 4pm Saturday March 31
@ College of Alameda
555 Ralph Appezzato Memorial Pkwy
& Webster St
Free Admission Free Parking
westendfleamarket com

No Hormones, No Condoms

Study invites couples to test experimental contraceptive gel
Earn up to $700 + free supplies
800 300 5267/ testmethods.org

TEA HOUSE
SUN GROWN MEDICINE
Naturally!
Delivering Humboldt to the East Bay
www.teahousecollective.org

Oakland 420 Evaluations

Second Location
OPEN IN SAN JOSE
www.SJ420.com

San Jose Location at:
115 N 4th Street Suite 106
(Between St. John & St. James)
San Jose | 408 896 0960 | www SJ420 com
Monday - Saturday 11am 7pm Sunday 12-5
We Will Match ANY Local Competitors Price
510.832.5000 | Walk Ins Welcome
All evaluations done by CA Licensed MD
2633 Telegraph Ave #109 • Oakland
Monday - Saturday 10am 5pm
OaklandMarijuanaCenter.com
Please visit our website to book your appointment today

$39
Expires 4/3/12
Must Bring Ad • 1 per Patient
Renewals only

Our MCU ATF has the highest levels of CBD ever recorded by SC Labs.

Now *that's* good medicine.

only available by delivery from

HILLS FARMACY

(510) 292 8717
hillsfarmacy com

3RD STREET HYDROPONICS
[illegible]
www.3rdsthydroponics.com
[illegible]

The Bay Area's LARGEST and MOST EXPERIENCED Hydro Store

Priceless Evaluations
24/7 verification - High Quality Photo Id card
Medical Marijuana evaluations

$30 New Patients and Renewals
(ONLY with this ad)
All evaluations done by CA Licensed MD

415-796-2254
3490 20th St., Ste # 302
San Francisco, CA 94110